

# NODULE X9

## GERALD PATRICK HEMMING

THE MAN WHO WROTE THE OSWALD SCENARIO



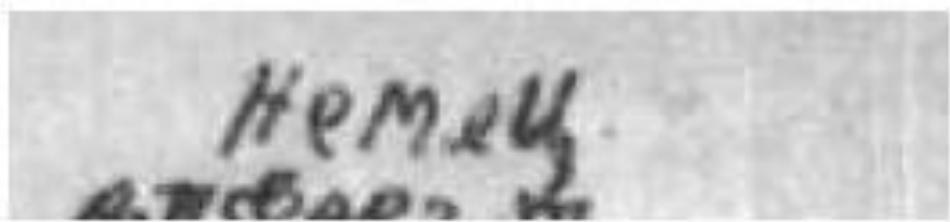
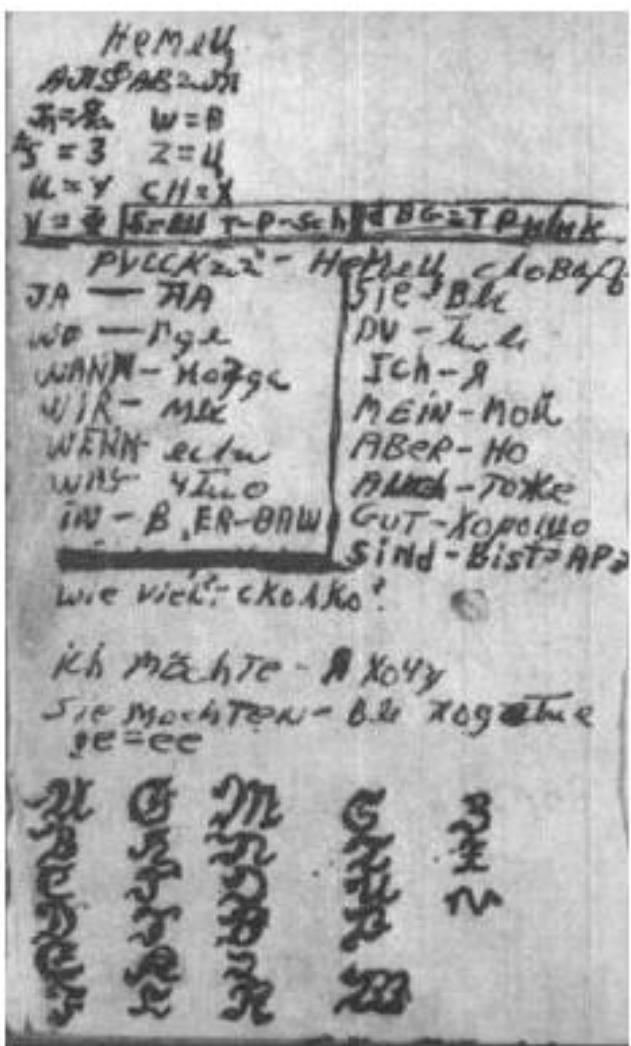
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HEMMING'S NAME WAS IN OSWALD'S ADDRESS BOOK

On the page opposite to the entry "Russ for Forin" the letters "Hemg" appeared disguised as the Russian word for "German." Hemming spoke perfect German. HEMMING told this researcher:

Those are my three FAA initials. H-E-M was how I signed off as a radar operator. You got OSWALD'S access to the New Orleans newspapers,

but the Stuckey article was published in June 1962. I never gave him my name when I met him in Monterey Park. I didn't use my name when I visited him. The word reads H-e-m-e-u. I don't recognize that as a Russian word. It was written in the Soviet Union. Jesus Christ, you got a pimple looking like the fucking Goodyear Blimp. Quit pumping on the son-of-a-bitch! Three fucking letters out of a thousand.



HEMMING was born in Los Angeles, California, on March 1, 1937. He was one of eight children of a radio/TV repairman with a shop in Alhambra, California. HEMMING told this researcher:

I come from a culture that insisted on European education. My father was born in Colombo, Ceylon, to a wealthy English family. He owned newspapers in Calcutta and Bombay. He was born while his mother, a widow, was on a world tour spending the millions she had inherited. My father went to school in France and England. He loved the Germans. Came to the United States. Married my mother who was from Saskatoon, Canada. On my mother's side we have Indian and black blood. On my father's side pure fucking English/German. I'm raised to know what it is to have a library, the classics, all this shit. I used to play hokey and hit the used bookstores. In 1951 or 1952 I read *Handbook for Spies* by M. R. D. Foote.

The FBI reported:

GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, SR., father of the subject was born on May 31, 1902 at Ceylon, India, and entered the United States at New York City on July 11, 1919. He was naturalized in the Eastern District of New York on March 15, 1927. CATHERINE ELLEN HEMMING, nee SIMPSON, was born on March 18, 1913 at Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada, and entered the United States at Bathe, Washington, on November 30, 1923. She was naturalized in the Southern District of California on November 26, 1943.

HEMMING told this researcher that he had appeared in the *Los Angeles Times* in 1951 for

...breaking into sporting goods stores for weapons and going to the desert with the weapons and some other guys and training them for guerilla warfare. As long as they obeyed the fucking law, did what I said, and didn't go off on a tangent, there were no problems. The *Los Angeles Times* called it a John Dillinger crime wave. OSWALD had one gun as a kid, I'm given to understand. I had a collection of weapons.

GERALD PATRICK HEMMING'S brother, Robert Hemming, verified that this incident did occur. In August 1995 HEMMING displayed the article to this author:

BOYS PLANNING  
CRIMES SEIZED  
29 Stolen Guns Found Hidden by  
Five Teenagers Set on Banditry.

SAN MARINO, **March 5, 1951.** Five teenage boys dreamed of launching a 'Dillinger crime wave' from a foothills hideout have been rounded up Police announced today. Captain Ed Norwine said the alleged gang members only 16 years old, admitted stealing the guns in three burglaries of San Marino and Alhambra stores so they could operate like Dillinger, the desperado of the 1930's.

#### LIVE SHELLS----

The youths assertedly boasted they planned to 'blitz' the San Gabriel Valley with holdups after setting up a hideout in the foot hills above Pasadena. Officers said the boys had read up on guerilla warfare, and even practiced with live shells in the San Gabriel Wash. The break came last night when officers on routine patrol noticed two boys standing in front of a sporting goods shop at 2496 Huntington Drive, while a third boy was trying to open the roof skylight. The boys admitted they were after more guns, then named their two confederates and told where their caches of arms were hidden.

#### RIFLES FOUND ---

Twenty one rifles, a shotgun and seven revolvers and automatics were reported found under the boys houses, together with burglary tools. A 3,000 round supply of ammunition was dug up from one of the boy's backyard. Three youths, jailed in Pasadena for investigation of burglary were taken today to Juvenile Hall. The other two, temporarily released to their parents, also will be questioned by juvenile authorities. Officers said the gang got its weapons by twice burglarizing a sporting goods store in Alhambra, California...

HEMMING, who spoke Spanish and German, dressed in a Hitler Youth Corps uniform. HEMMING told this researcher:

I studied the Nazis very closely. I read *Mein Kampf* in the original goddamn German. I had my picture taken in a Nazi uniform. I'm very close to that. I speak the fucking language and everything. I don't like these goddamn cracker son-of-a-bitches playing fucking Nazi. It's sickening. You got to be a German to be a Nazi. My philosophy is the whole world is full of assholes. Some of the these assholes are chimps, some of these assholes are homo sapiens.

When he dropped-out of high school in 1953, someone in HEMMING'S family forged a birth certificate for him and HEMMING joined the Marines. HEMMING refused to say how long he was in the Marines before his true age was discovered: "That's in an area with a lot of other mysterious shit. OSWALD wasn't tall enough to get away with the

false age shit." Forced out of the Corps when his true age was discovered, he rejoined on April 19, 1954.

## HEMMING IN THE MARINES

APRIL 1954 OCTOBER TO 1958



GERALD PATRICK HEMMING entered on duty with the U. S. Marine Corps on April 19, 1954, at the age of 17. HEMMING weighed 231 pounds and was 6' 4" tall when he joined the Marines. While in the Marines, HEMMING claimed he read and traveled extensively. He made international connections and was often "mistaken for a CIA agent" by CIA personnel:

One guy left classified data with me. Because I was so tall, everyone thought I was much older. When I was stationed at a particular place I was practicing some trade craft. I did it twice. Early in my career and late in my career.

HEMMING hinted at his friendship with OSWALD:

I had run into him before, he came to Subic Bay, I didn't know who the hell he was. He saw me. I didn't know him. I visited the radar sites. He was with a group of people. I didn't much pay attention to him. I might even

have drank beer with him and not even remember it. Or at chow he might have been with a group of people driving from his unit over to the chow hall that could have overheard numerous conversations and sat there. In the Marine Corps when you are sent overseas to an outfit, you are sent on a draft. Usually when you are on a draft, you're not a critical MOS guy. A guy that may have been OSWALD came through on a draft and then stopped over in Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii and attempted to switch jobs from this draft with our radar people. He'd rather have not gone to Japan. If the man dealt with me there it was over a sandwich or a cup of coffee or some such shit. I was busier than a son-of-a-bitch. Now if it was in Iwakuni...

HEMMING told the HSCA he flew to *Atsugi* three times, but never saw OSWALD. According to Scott Malone, OSWALD and HEMMING could have met when they were both in Iwakuni, Japan. HEMMING told his children at he was barely acquainted with OSWALD at *Atsugi*.

When HEMMING left the Marines his service data read:

Service Schools Successfully completed MAD, NATTC, JAX, FLA. 8 weeks (1954) Airman, C1 (p); NATTU NAS Olathe, Kansas, 12 weeks (1955) Air Control Manager, GCAScol C1 © 14 weeks (1955) Operators course; NTC, Bainbridge, Md. 15 weeks (1958) US Naval Prep Scol. Remarks Recommended For Reenlistment Good Conduct Medal period commences April 19, 1957 (2nd Award); Satisfactorily passed USAFI GED High School level test; Satisfactorily passed USAFI GED College level test. Specialty number and title: 6711 Air Traffic Cont. Related Civilian Occupation and DOT number 1-19.01 Airplane Dispatch Clerk (air trans.) National Defense Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal. [HEMMING'S DISCHARGE given to this researcher by HEMMING]



HEMMING listed his military history on his CIA Application for Employment: "Airmen Prep School, NAS Jacksonville, Florida, Military Aviation, Air Control "A" Tower Radio Radar; NAS Olathe Kansas Flying November 1954 to February 1955; AC "C" Radar Operator, Radar, Radio and Navigation; MAS Olathe, Kansas, Instrument Flight August 1955 to November 1955." HEMMING was a radar specialist who attended Air Traffic Control School (Federal Aeronautics Administration Tower License) and GCA Radar Final Control School and served in the 4th Marine Regiment (Far East), 3rd Marine Air Wing. During most of his four years and seven months in the Marines HEMMING was based in the Far East. OSWALD attended Aircraft Control and Warning Operators School, and served in the 1st Marine Air Wing in the Far East. [WR p683] OSWALD and HEMMING were both in the same geographical area at the same time. They could have known each other, despite the fact there was no paperwork that documented this relationship and when HEMMING

filed a Freedom of Information Act request with the Navy he implied that no records of his early association with OSWALD existed:

I wish all memoranda from FBI, CIA et al. in reference, from 1959 through and including 1963, between myself and OSWALD (deceased, EX-PFC, USMC).

Gerald Posner wrote: "HEMMING served with OSWALD in Japan and was himself recruited by the CIA." [Case Closed f.n. p27] HEMMING never said he was stationed in the same unit as OSWALD or at the same location. He said he may have run across OSWALD, or OSWALD may have run across him, while he

...traveled around the Far East on a space available basis on an out-of-bounds pass and got to see the world. Anyplace I stayed it was because it had a radar site there or a control tower. I could stay at the control tower bunk area or in the radar site bunking area, because, I, like them, was part of the elite group of controllers. When they are trying to match you up, when you are putting somebody in and trying to get somebody close to somebody, you have to have identical interests and background. [HEMMING ONI FOIA Req. 12.22.76]

HEMMING was in to taking military flights. When OSWALD left the Soviet Union in 1962 he asked if he could catch a "military hop" to the United States from Berlin. HEMMING told this researcher:

Even if OSWALD served in the same unit with me I wouldn't recruit the son-of-a-bitch to kiss my ass. The guy had a fuckin' attitude. Let's say I'd been around him a long time, what the fuck was there to like about the son-of-a-bitch? He's like anybody else in the Air Wing of the Marine Corps. Just doing his time. I remember guys that served with me, and only two of them ever got in rubber boats with me and did shit, Marine Corps shit, doing it on their own time. Getting guys to do shit to improve their techniques and to improve their skills on their own time is a bitch. What would be the criterion for OSWALD to have the privilege of hanging out with me? Jesus Christ, that little fucking puke. The guy hadn't done shit. I'm not looking for fucking groupies, I'm looking for fucking counterparts.

On April 1, 1957, HEMMING attained the rank of Sergeant. He was honorably released from active duty and transferred to the Marine Corps Reserve on October 17, 1958.

## HEMMING AND ANGLETON: 1958



During the later portion of his Marine tour, HEMMING told this researcher he attended Bainbridge Naval Academy Preparatory School. Records confirmed HEMMING attended "NTC, Bainbridge, Md. U.S. Navy Preparatory School" for 15 weeks in 1958. [Armed Forces of the U.S. Report of Transfer or Discharge for JPH] That year he took a course at the Marine Corps Institute on Communist Guerilla Warfare. HEMMING said he was accepted into the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps after Bainbridge Naval Academy and he reportedly was to attend the University of Missouri. HEMMING said he changed his mind because he wanted to engage in Special Forces type activity. He served the balance of his tour at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland. HEMMING told this researcher:

I met with ANGLETON at his home near Tyson's Corner. It came at the end of my tour of duty. [1958] I was 21 years old. It was a casual fucking encounter. If I put my ass on the line in Cuba, I'm going to report on a high level. He was introduced to me as a high official, someone you could trust. I told some people this is what I am going to do, if this can be of benefit beyond me, beyond my personal experience, if it's of some value, let me know. They responded, setting up a couple of meetings. We weren't plotting and scheming like some secret fucking mission. I wanted to get the feel of being a Jedburgh. [OSS men who parachuted behind enemy lines.] I was doing the exact same thing. I wanted to make goddamned sure I wasn't going to do it wrong. I was going behind enemy lines and was going to pose as the enemy. I couldn't get it all from fucking books. There's trade craft in there that doesn't appear in goddamn books. He knew who I was. What I had been doing. Where I was going. I didn't report to ANGLETON. We're talking about a very casual conversation. ANGLETON: 'Young man, let me tell you this. You're jeopardizing your military career. And I can't say, 'Go do this, or go do that.' 'As far as service to your country, I don't see it whatsoever. However, I can make some arrangements that if you do get into a situation, you can be helped. If you get into a position where you learn something of benefit to your country it can be reported. But not on a day-to-day basis. Not even on an infrequent basis. It is more likely when you come out of there and it's all over, or, if you are in a position and somebody makes a decision, you may have to stay in place. But you won't know why, who or whatever and it's going to be a very difficult position. You won't even know that it's coming from me. You'll have to judge yourself whether certain words are used. Whether you remember them. Somebody's given you some key words...

He told me never to attempt to communicate with him from a hostile environment for any reason at all. He said, 'I'm not going to tell you it's not

worth it. None of us ever know.' He's got a responsibility not to encourage me to go on this asshole Cuban thing. It would be admitting they had nobody in place. I didn't want to be a spy - a slime ball slipping in and out. I wanted some G/W experience. I was guaranteed I was not [carried on the CIA's books]. Goddamn right, from the outset. I wasn't working for them pricks, if I could be of service, real good.

The guy had homosexual tendencies after a few drinks. Maybe the guy found himself in a situation like that once a year. It's a fondling type situation. I'm not talking about a love affair. Grabbing somebody by the dick or something. That's what happened. The pattern was there. It didn't make me fucking happy. I was there. It happened to me more than once with more than one fucking intelligence type. I thought, 'Maybe it's a test?' No more disagreeable things occurred, so I guess I'd passed the test.

When HEMMING was told that I found this unlikely he remarked:

Out of one side of your mouth you are talking about the guy who may have assassinated the President of the United States but you want to keep his character intact. The guy didn't give a shit about money. The guy gave a shit about his organs and that was it. He didn't give a shit about his lifestyle, even though he was a patrician. Frank Wisner was the same way when I met him.

HEMMING told this researcher:

I saw ANGLETON four times in my life. I'm being recruited and I'm not interested in this shit. I'm interested in Special Warfare. I'm not going into the details of how I met ANGLETON. The only thing that interested me was talking to people who had been in the OSS. These are my fucking heros. They were interesting characters. This was in Virginia. I'm at the Naval Academy Prep School, then I'm at the Naval Academy, up the road from D.C. You know why I got along with ANGLETON? Cause I was raised in East Los Angeles with Mexicans. My old man hated them and beat my ass for hanging out with the beaners. First girls I dated were Mexican.

Mrs. Angleton was asked if she remembered HEMMING:

I have no memory of him at all. I don't think it ever happened. JIM had nothing to do with Cuba. Nobody would come to him about Cuba. What do you mean, 'Perhaps my husband had a hand in it?' You better have evidence. He never knew HUNT. He may have talked to him by phone or maybe he saw him in the office once in awhile. But he never knew him. I never in my life laid eyes on that man. Never heard of CHRIST. People came and went from the house. Be careful of what you're saying. I'm sick

of this and I might file a lawsuit. You get a legend going and everyone wants to be part of it. My husband did know JIM McCORD. Not DAVID PHILLIPS.

## HEMMING'S UNCLE, ART SIMPSON

### SHIP PROFIT DATA CALLED 'HALF TRUTH'

McCone Says at House Hearing  
Maritime Commission's Report  
'Is Deliberately Misleading'

#### 'OMISSIONS' DENOUNCED

Other Witnesses Back His View  
That Contractors Saved Ves-  
sel Program From Failure

By WILLIAM S. WHITE

Special to The New York Times  
WASHINGTON, Sept. 25—Gov-  
ernment figures picturing wartime  
shipbuilder profits as enormous  
were contradicted today before a  
House Merchant Marine Subcom-  
mittee by one war contractor as  
"deliberately misleading" to the  
public. His statement, which  
otherwise was challenged by other  
witnesses.

John A. McCone, president of the  
California Shipbuilding Company,  
asserted that the profit report  
furnished by the Maritime Com-

#### TESTIFIES IN CAPITAL



John A. McCone  
Associated Press Wirephoto

plain why the corporation was en-  
titled to net fees of more than  
\$8,000,000 for operating a govern-  
ment-owned and government-own-

HEMMING stated his entre into the intelligence community was through his uncle, Art Simpson, the brother of his mother, Catharine Ellen Simpson. HEMMING told this researcher: "He knew John McCone, who was involved with my uncle, Art Simpson. Simpson was one of the un-indicted co-conspirators in John McCone's war profiteering trial. He was found innocent." There was no trial.

Born into a prosperous San Francisco family on January 4, 1902, John McCone was a steel company executive until 1937, when he formed the Bechtel-McCone-Parsons Corporation. This company specialized in the design and construction of petroleum refineries for installation in South America and the Middle East. In 1939 John McCone entered the ship-building business; in 1946, Ralph E. Casey, an investigator for the Government Accounting Office leveled accusations of profiteering against him, and John McCone was called before the House Merchant Marine Committee. McCone was president of the California Shipbuilding Corporation, which was accused by the Government Accounting Office of having made \$44 million in profits from an investment of \$600,000. "Calship" was owned by Henry J. Kaiser. Henry J. Kaiser was in partnership with Howard Hughes during the war. [Robert Maheu, *Next to Hughes*, 1992, Harper Collins p133] Kaiser and McCone made convincing arguments, and the matter went no further. They were not indicted. The name "Simpson" was absent from the articles about these hearings. [NYT 9.26.46; Newsweek 10.7.46 p37; Wash. Post 9.26.46; Ross & Wise *Invisible Government* p193] After the war, John McCone purchased a million-dollar interest in Standard Oil of California which was owned by the Rockefeller family. McCone became a member of President Truman's Air Policy Commission in 1947 and in 1948 he became special deputy to James Forrestal, the Secretary of Defense. In 1956 John McCone stated: "The uninformed believe that radioactive fallout from H-bomb tests endangers life." In 1958 he became chairman of

the Atomic Energy Commission. He was an avid supporter of the Dulles brothers and a devout Roman Catholic. On September 27, 1961, President John F. Kennedy announced the appointment of John McCone as Director of the Central Intelligence Agency. Many of the President Kennedy's advisors believed he should have appointed Robert F. Kennedy Director of the Central Intelligence Agency, or he should have chosen a Kennedy man. [Ross & Wise *Inv. Gov.* p200]

On HEMMING'S application for CIA employment he listed this financial reference: "Haisa-Pacific Inc., Art Simpson (President)." HEMMING told this researcher: "That was the Asia Pacific Foundation. Simpson was on the board. It was a proprietary."

3. GIVE NAMES OF FINANCIAL REFERENCES IN THE UNITED STATES	
ADDRESS IN U.S. Name, City, State	
Haisa-Pacific, Inc., Art Simpson (Pres.)	1329 S. Figueroa St. Los Angeles 15, Calif. 1061 W. 35th St.
Spiegel, Inc.	Chicago 6, Illinois 227 W. Washington St.
Klein's	Chicago 6, Illinois
4. DO YOU RECEIVE AN ANNUITY FROM THE UNITED STATES OR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA GOVERNMENT UNDER ANY ACT RELATING TO COMPENSATION FOR A - VETERAN STATUS?	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	

It was not the Asia Foundation, an organization that was funded by CIA. In 2010 I located an Asia Pacific Capital Advisors (213) 680-8811 345 S Figueroa Street Los Angeles, CA 90071. The Asia Society is located 350 S Figueroa St, Los Angeles, CA 90071 (213) 613-9934 The CIA worked the Rockefeller Foundation, and established numerous "bogus" foundations to "hide" its funding of the Asia Society and other NGO's. Robert Hemming confirmed that his uncle, "Art" Simpson, was a partner with John McCone in Cal-Ship in San Pedro. HEMMING was telling the truth despite the fact I cannot locate any relevant traces on Art Simpson.

#### HEMMING - THE MISSING LINK

HEMMING had contact with OSWALD in the Marines, then had contact with ANGLETON. Was HEMMING the "missing link" between OSWALD and ANGLETON? Had he brought OSWALD to ANGLETON'S attention in an informal atmosphere sometime between December 1958 and October 1959:

Did I recommend OSWALD to ANGLETON? I was not interested in the business. I was making a career decision. I'm on my way into the Naval Academy, the Air Force Academy, or NROTC at a university. Or I'm going to transfer over into the Army. I was not impressed with the CIA. The only time I ever thought of bringing former Marines into working with me was when I was in Cuba. I invited some of them down. I was hard pressed to find somebody that had Special Forces type of skills. These guys were sharp and had been in the infantry in Korea then they went to the Air Wing, then they went to radar school. We had similar interests. But

nobody was doing what I was doing in the Marine Corps. I was more or less on my own...OSWALD would have never had a contact at that fucking level. Fuck no. What the fuck for? That would be telling OSWALD that he's important. He's used as a pawn. He's a fall guy for the U-2 shit, then he's a fall guy for something else, and then he's a fall guy for the Kennedy thing. This guy doesn't know what he's being used for. You're wrong on ANGLETON.

HEMMING refused to supply the names of anyone who could corroborate his story. He said he testified about the ANGLETON meetings before the HSCA and that "JIM was shown it, and didn't like it." A summary of HEMMING'S HSCA testimony contained no reference to ANGLETON. Marina Oswald 1994: "I do not believe ANGLETON ran him directly. They have lots of people in between and they don't want their nose to show to be dirty. It's a grapevine connection."

#### HEMMING'S ANTI-BATISTA ACTIVITIES IN 1958

HEMMING told this researcher:

I ran into Cuban exiles at the gun shop up there in Bayonne, New Jersey. Totally causal thing. I was picking up some DEWAT (Deactivated War Trophy) Thompson submachine guns that had a lead plug in the barrel. No registration, no nothing. It's a piece of junk metal. Next door, in this other shop, they sold you a brand new barrel. This guy happened to mention some interesting people who came in. These guys were trying to get some wino American to buy them guns, cause they didn't have U.S. I.D. You had to have a drivers license. Since 1934, it's been illegal for a foreigner to buy a weapon in this country. If you're visiting this country, you can't buy a gun. The owner told me to clue these guys on where to buy the barrels and he'd throw in an extra piece for me. They needed somebody to buy it for them, so I bought it for them. It's as simple as that. Then I carried it down there for them. They didn't know how to do that either. They eventually clamped-down and told everybody to turn their DEWATS in.

HEMMING told the HSCA:

While still in the Marines, he spent more than one weekend in Cuba, contacting 26th of July people. Before his separation from the service, Naval Intelligence became aware of his activities in supplying weapons, and attempted to recruit him.

[HSCA Sum. HEMMING Depo Triplett 5.12.78] No military record has surfaced that substantiated this. In a Freedom of Information Act Request to the FBI dated August 27, 1975, HEMMING asked for documents on

Clandestine activities involving revolution against the Cuban regime of President Fulgencio Batista...Activities with Fidel Castro: Cuban Rebel Army and Rebel Air Force from 1958 to 1960. [ltr. to FBI from JPH 8.27.75; Johnson, *Lee and Marina* p327; CIA Routing and Record sheet 6.11.62; GPH FOI/PA Req.]

HEMMING left the Marines on **October 17, 1958**. He received an honorable discharge. In his CIA Biographic Resume HEMMING wrote that his first visit to Cuba occurred in February 1959. HEMMING commented:

That's what I was told to put down. They didn't want me saying I committed any crimes. They said, 'Forget everything before 1959 except Marine Corps service.' They told me not to put down any of my activities prior to January 1959. They didn't want the FBI to get wind of this shit. Then they would haul my ass in front of a grand jury on weapons smuggling charges. It was a matter of days. Very limited contact, but enough to get me put away. It was the first clue that I knew the FBI was after me. I didn't tell the FBI shit. It's a crime to lie to the FBI.

No evidence that HEMMING was involved in Cuban affairs prior to January 1959 has surfaced. The FBI reported February 1959 he went to Cuba, where he became involved in Cuban and Nicaraguan activity and served in the Cuban Rebel Army and Air Force at a salary of \$70 to \$80 per month on an irregular basis. In August 1960 he left Cuba and returned to California via Mexico. [FBI 105-86406-18] HEMMING stated: "After I got out of the Marines, I messed around in Mexico, Florida and Cuba." He told the HSCA that, "upon leaving the Marines, he became involved in obtaining weapons for the Cuban rebels."

#### WILLIAM MORGAN & GUTIERREZ MENOYO **FEBRUARY 1959**



HEMMING told this researcher:

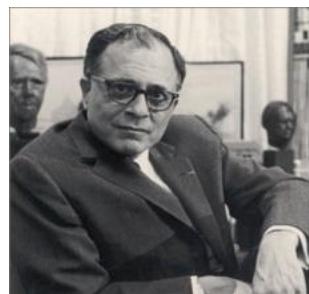
I took the Guantanamo flight, then entered Cuba. Then I went back to Miami, got a visa, and went back in. They weren't handing out visas to everyone. It was waiting for me when I got there. I made contact with Felix

Pena's people, who I had delivered guns to, and said: 'Here I am.' And that's where the story starts.

In Cuba, HEMMING worked with William Alexander Morgan. William Morgan was born in Toledo, Ohio, on April 19, 1928. He was a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division in Normandy and taught offensive hand-to-hand fighting as a member of the 35th Infantry Regiment of the 25th Division in Japan. He was court martialed in 1947 for armed robbery. Sentenced to five years at hard labor, William Morgan escaped from confinement and was a fugitive until 1950, when he was apprehended, dishonorably discharged, and imprisoned. CIA documents indicated that a "Wm. A. Morgan MS 2001-M" was the Subject of an Army Loyalty Investigation in 1943 and that "W. S. Morgan MS-3547 was given a CIA orientation course on September 8, 1956, but was not interviewed - see above. This man was identifiable with the Subject." HEMMING told this researcher: "W. S. Morgan could be *the* William Morgan. He was in the Escambray Mountains in 1957. How does a guy from Toledo end up in the mountains? He was a truck driver in Florida who got hooked up with hauling some guns that went to Menoyo's people." In February 1958, William Morgan went to Cuba. He soon became Commander of the Rebel Army in the Escambray Mountains, working with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo. Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo was a former Havana bar owner whose brother, a Spanish Civil War veteran, was killed by Batista's troops in the unsuccessful attack on the Presidential Palace on March 13, 1957. On November 10, 1957, Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo formed the Second National Front of Escambray. By October 1958, his forces reportedly numbered 3,000 men. William Morgan was married on November 17, 1958, to Olga Rodriguez Farinas, a Cuban school teacher from Santa Clara, who had joined the rebel forces in the Escambray mountains, and later served as his secretary while he was Chief of the General Staff.



#### LEO CHERNE



On March 26, 1959, Leo Cherne, Executive Director of the International Rescue Committee, told Rudolph E. Gomez, Acting Chief, W/H Division, that:

...he had been in Cuba about a week before...While in Varadero he met a Mr. William Fidelston, (phonetic), a New York lawyer and a friend of his who was in Cuba on business. He told Fidelston that he would like to see Fidel Castro and Fidelston said that a friend of his, Comandante William Alexander Morgan [could help]...Upon his return to Havana Cherne saw

Morgan at the Hotel Capri where Morgan is staying. Mr. Cherne said that Morgan was a most impressive person...Morgan claims 2,000 of his former troops are now in the Cuban Army and still loyal to him. Ché Guevara is very envious of Morgan, and had instructed Cienfuegos to have Morgan liquidated. Cienfuegos sent a person whose name began with 'B' and who was his second in command to liquidate Morgan. However, Morgan found out about the plot, was going to kill 'B,' but was stopped from doing so by Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, who said he did not approve of killing a rebel. Morgan then came to Havana and met an American from Cleveland, Dominick Bartone, who is a well-to-do American businessman and who is trying to sell some Globemasters to Fidel Castro. Dominick Bartone befriended Morgan, and was paying for his room at the Capri. Cherne felt Morgan could be very valuable as he is on excellent terms with Fidel Castro. He knows something about the plans Fidel Castro has to invade Panama, and is willing to give information in return for advice regarding how his status will affect his American citizenship...Morgan told Cherne that he wanted to do something to help the 3,000 families in the Escambray Mountains who have been bombed out. Cherne says it would cost about \$600,000 to rehabilitate these people and probably the IRC could provide quite a bit of this money. Also, that in his opinion, whatever committee undertook this enterprise could gain access to and probably develop Castro with the objective of eventually putting it in the position that it could influence Castro...Cherne said that Morgan had given him a recognition signal which is a Cuban five cent piece dated 1946 with an indenture on the edge of the coin. That anyone who presented this coin to Morgan would know that he was a person in whom Cherne had confidence and his would establish his bone fides.

Leo Cherne was an economist who ran the Research Institute of America, Vice Chairman in 1972 of Democrats for NIXON and was associated with the Free Cuba Committee, the Council Against Communist Aggression and the Citizens Committee for Peace and Freedom in Vietnam. In 1963 or 1964 the International Rescue Committee received \$15,000 in CIA funding. When President Gerald Ford appointed Leo Cherne to his Intelligence Oversight Board, John Crewdson of *The New York Times* reported this. Crewdson retracted some of the charges in his article the next day. The CIA released this document in 1993:

TO: Chief, Contact Division  
FOR: Support (Crowley)  
SUBJECT: Mr. Leo Cherne, Research Institute of America, New York,  
New York.

1. We had a long talk with SAC about one thing and another which included his contacts with Cuban refugee revolutionary leaders. He spoke of a lunch and long discussion he had recently with Raul Chibas (See New York Report No. 3383-1). In addition he spoke of his close connections

with Sanchez Arrango, and the fact that he had other good relationships with other leaders of the Frente.

2. After reviewing his contacts with various revolutionary Cuban exile leaders and the fact that they seem to have complete respect for his knowledge of Cuba and Cuban affairs (in 1960 (illegible - document ripped) on the platform with Fidel at the 26 July celebration, he (illegible) that he felt certain that within a period of 90 days he could (illegible) a solid revolutionary front out of several groups and movements.

3. Although it was not stated, we felt the remark (illegible) tossed into the conversation to see what reaction it might be. Our reply was that we thought it was very interesting and that we (illegible) that he could probably bring it off. We suggested that he might (illegible) want to talk to others about it. He said that he had dealt with (illegible) Rudy Gomez, the DCI and the DDP people before, but he felt that Rudy Gomez had been transferred to a post in Chile. He may as a result apply to either the DDP or the DCI sometime soon. We also felt that even if the remark was provocative that he has been giving the matter considerable thought and may very well decide to do just that.

[CIA C/DCD 7.28.61 FOIA 07428]

On March 27, 1959 CI/OA requested a search on William Morgan in connection with his contemplated use by the Cuban desk/Western Hemisphere for purposes of contact and debriefing. On March 30, 1959, a Memo for the Chief, Western Hemisphere Division, read: "Central Cover Division concurs in your proposal to use the above individual for the purpose indicated. In keeping with the requirement placed upon Central Cover Division to maintain an accurate register of current non-official cover activity you are specifically requested to advise Central Cover Division / Non-official Cover promptly by memorandum when Subject has been activated. John C. Southard Chief CCD/NC."

## HEMING

The FBI reported:

**On March 28, 1960**, MM T-2, another Government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations made available information concerning GERRY HEMING, who was then residing in Havana, Cuba. HEMING was described as an American with the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force, stationed in Pinar del Rio. It was reported that he claimed to be a T-33 jet pilot whose mission was to intercept airplanes based in the United States which fly over Cuba to destroy sugar cane fields. It was also reported that he had formerly been stationed in the Isle of Pines, Cuba.

This information also indicated that HEMING was an associate of Major WILLIAM A. MORGAN. Major WILLIAM A. MORGAN was a United States citizen who went to Cuba and fought as a revolutionary against the Government of BATISTA, which fell on January 1, 1959. MORGAN was later arrested and executed by the CASTRO Government on a charge of counter-revolutionary activity. The information from MM T-2 also reflected that HEMING was then wearing Army fatigues, was armed with a pistol, and wore a United States paratrooper badge. He said he had been in Cuba for two years.

## HAMING

On **April 4, 1960**, MM T-3, another Government agency which conducts personnel and intelligence investigations, furnished information indicating that GERALD P. HAMING, a 23 year old United States citizen who had been born in Los Angeles, California, was then employed by the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force at San Julian as a parachutist and was then engaged in training Nicaraguans. At this time HAMING reportedly said that there were only 25 parachutists in Cuba, that all were willing to fight in Nicaragua and that they would come well armed. HAMING was described as having been a flyer who was a Marine in Korea and at the Guantanamo Naval Base and had been warned when he was fighting for Cuba that he could lose his United States citizenship. HAMING indicated that this was not important to him.

This information also reflected that HAMING had indicated an interest in going to Costa Rica to coordinate activities between Cuba and Costa Rican groups there. He was reported to have indicated a desire to travel to the United States under a false name and Cuban passport to sell liberty bonds in California and obtain arms and planes from a ranch in Texas. He was also reported to have proposed a scheme to steal two small planes from an air base in Texas and claimed that he had friends in the U. S. Marine Corps who would obtain arms from Marine Corps arsenals.

HAMING also is reported to have stated that when FIDEL CASTRO and Soviet diplomat ANASTASIAS MIKOYAN visited the San Julian Air Base, they discussed Soviet aid to Cuba, (including secret assistance in the form of men and arms).

It is noted that MM T-2 in a report dated **July 19, 1960**, furnished information regarding a small group of Nicaraguans, Americans and Cubans who composed the MOVIMIENTO DE LIBERACION SANDINO NICARAGUA (SANDINO MOVEMENT FOR THE LIBERATION OF NICARAGUA). It was reported that the goal of this group was to gather materials of war, money, and to recruit non-Cubans in Latin American countries and the United States to serve in the military forces with which

they intended to invade the Republic of Nicaragua. The group had the support of FIDEL CASTRO and the Cuban Government as well as Comandante WILLIAM A. MORGAN and had been promised weapons, ammunition, clothing, and medical supplies. Among the individuals identified as members of this group was JERRY HEMING, who was reported to have fought in the Cuban revolution, to wear a Cuban Air Force uniform, and to be a Sergeant in the Cuban Air Force. As of the time of that report, HEMING was believed to be in Los Angeles, California, visiting his parents.

Was William Morgan going to kill Fidel Castro on behalf of the CIA? The CIA stated: "Western Hemisphere/III/Cuba canceled the request as of May 5, 1959." On May 7, 1959, the CIA stated that:

...a psychiatrist has described him as an 'extreme example of a non-vicious type of psychopath.' His father describes him as emotionally disturbed and in need of psychiatric treatment. In Havana, Subject's reputation is extremely poor and he is described as a braggart and a little on the goofy side. Subject's sister, Marilyn Morgan, AKA Vicky, is reported to be the mistress of Ruben Miro Guardia, the Panamanian revolutionary.

The FBI related: "Morgan has been described as a judo expert and claims he once was a bodyguard for Meyer Lansky. (Deleted) advised this Bureau that Morgan is emotionally disturbed and needs psychiatric help. On August 13, 1959, the CIA reported that on July 27, 1959, or on July 30, 1959, William Morgan told the FBI in Miami that he had contacted the State Department and Kubark in Havana and furnished information to a State Department representative about middle July. The CIA:

ORIGIN: Hugh O. Macauley  
DATE: August 11, 1959

On 27 or 30 July William A. Morgan told ODENVY in Miami he had contacted ODACID and KUBARK in Havana and had furnished info to ODACID representative about middle July. Morgan withheld exact nature of information he claimed to have furnished. Request verification above statement.

Western Hemisphere Division Comment: reported Morgan's presence in Miami, Florida, where he reported to AMBOAR that he was the leader of a plot to assassinate Castro and that he had been interrogated by ODENVY in Miami on July 28, 1959.

William Morgan renounced his American citizenship on September 22, 1959. On September 30, 1959, an Indices Search Request, covert, was run on William Morgan. The dates and nature of six of these documents are withheld. On December 7, 1959, the CIA described Morgan as a "Formerly worked for MRD / Double agent for Fidel

Castro." The CIA reported "There is a restricted (deleted) folder on the Subject of this 201 held under (deleted)."

## THE BOMBING OF THE LE COUBRE



Evidence suggested that on March 4, 1960, William Morgan had an anti-Castro dock worker plant an explosive device aboard the French freighter *Le Coubre*, which was waiting to be unloaded in the Port of Havana. The *Le Coubre* was carrying several thousand tons of munitions destined for Fidel Castro's army. When the bomb exploded, 75 people were killed and 300 were wounded. [FBI MM 97-4073-8 p4; NYT 3.5.60, 3,6,60] On March 4, 1960, Oklahoman Jack Leroy Evans fled Havana and arrived in Miami. He explained to newsmen:

The munitions ship which blew up in Havana harbor with a loss of between 75 and 100 lives was sabotaged by an anti-Communist dockworker...Jack Lee Evans, 25, fled to Miami after the explosion, declaring that he was fearful that his knowledge of the plot might put him in a Cuban prison or before a Cuban firing squad. The unidentified dockworker, said Evans, carried a package containing six sticks of dynamite aboard the French freighter, *Le Coubre*. He was to light the fuse so that the explosion would occur at 5:00 p.m. Friday, after the dock workers quit for the day. Something went wrong, and the explosion came an hour and 21 minutes early causing heavy loss of life. Evans declared he had learned of the plot two days before the explosion, and actually saw the dockworker burn a three inch length of fuse to time it. It burned for 15 minutes. He claimed he also saw the package of dynamite. He said he went to Havana after an exchange of correspondence with William A. Morgan...Evans, a Navy veteran of the Korean War said he did odd jobs and was a bodyguard for Morgan until March 1, 1960, when he was given an assignment to buy cotton seed and machinery for beginning cotton cultivation in Cuba. He displayed a letter of introduction signed by Dr. Fidel Castro...Meanwhile, said Evans, he lived in Morgan's house on 16th

Street in the Vedado section. Last Wednesday, said Evans, while visiting an oceanfront home in Havana he learned of the plot to blow up the munitions ship. Evans claimed he went to the ship with William Morgan and others before the explosion, and helped load machine guns and ammunition on a truck to take to the INRA (National Institute on Agrarian Reform) Building where he showed others how to assemble them...Evans said he made no effort to tell anyone the ship was to be sabotaged. Asked why he didn't tell Morgan, he said, 'Morgan never tells you anything and you never tell Morgan anything.' The Oklahoman said he was on the 18th floor of the INRA building when the explosion occurred...Ernesto Che Guevara was on the floor below us, and Morgan was downstairs somewhere. They all hopped into their cars and headed for the explosion scene. 'As soon as they were gone I went down and hurried to Morgan's house where I picked up my clothes and then went to the airport. I got aboard the next plane for Miami.' Asked if he thought Morgan was in on the sabotage plot, Evans replied: 'No I don't think so. He probably knew nothing about it...In Havana Morgan denied he had been aboard the ship with Evans commenting: 'The kid has to be out of his mind to say a thing like that. It's crazy.' Morgan said Evans came to Cuba two weeks ago looking for job 'to help the revolution.' He said Evans stayed at his home and he helped him get a job with INRA, but the young Oklahoman was in no way connected with his staff. Morgan said he last saw Evans at a government office Friday morning, the day of the explosion. He said his wife told him Evans returned to the Morgan home before noon, stayed until after the explosion and left shortly after for the airport. Morgan added that Evans left him a note saying he was going home to sell his horses and his cows and would return to Cuba in a week. Morgan said he himself did not go to the dock area until after the explosion. 'He appeared to be a nice boy and he made a good impression,' said Morgan, 'But he's off his rocker somewhere to say I was on the boat with him.' [Miami Herald E.V. Jones]

Evans had arrived in Cuba on January 5, 1959. HEMMING told this researcher:

Jack Leroy Evans puts the finger on William Morgan for the *Le Couvre* thing. Everybody is waiting for the hammer to fall. I just came back from Saint Julian where Fidel was meeting with Mikoyan. Fidel ain't buying the story that nothing was done here because security was real tight. I told Morgan we should leave Cuba.

*The New York Times* reported on March 13, 1960, that two Oklahomans [Roger Sharp and John Taylor] were arrested by Cuban authorities while they were photographing an agricultural exhibit at the INRA Building:

The Americans said it was apparent that the Cuban military authorities were attempting to establish some connection between them and a young

Oklahoman, Jack Lee Evans...Major Morgan went to the Institute Building where Sharp and Taylor were being questioned. They told him they had never heard of Mr. Evans, it was reported. However, the two Americans were taken to military intelligence headquarters and questioned before being released about midnight.

The Cuban Government reported:

A former CIA agent made public statements about this participation of the CIA in the criminal act carried out against the French steamship *Le Coubre*, where 100 Cubans were killed and about 200 seriously injured. He offers details about his accomplishments by blaming a slight damage in the mechanism of the blowing equipment which was used. [Opening Statement of GOC given to Sen. McGovern. Released 7.30.75]

A document about William Morgan was titled, "FBI Current Intelligence Analysis March 6, 1959." In a Freedom of Information Act Request to the FBI, HEMMING asked for documents on his

Activities with Major William Alexander Morgan, Cuban Rebel Army, from 1959 to 1960, with specific reference to anti-Trujillo (Dominican Republic) operations during the summer of 1959 and the S.S. *Le Coubre* steamship explosion in February 1960 at Havana Harbor.

According to Edward Epstein, OSWALD'S hero was "Major William Morgan...At one point, OSWALD suggested that Delgado accompany him to Cuba, where they both could emulate Morgan." In March 1960 the Second National Front of Escambray dissolved itself and became a part of the 26th of July Movement. Two of the signatories to this agreement were William Morgan and Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo.

#### HEMMING AND THE JULY 1959 NICARAGUAN INVASION

In **September 1959** HEMMING was detained for complicity in the plotting of a "Castroite" invasion of Nicaragua. HEMMING told this researcher:

At that point in time, in late 1959, Camillo Cienfuegos had set up a third invasion. We'd already done the Dominican thing, there was four days of fucking disaster. Then we did the Haitian thing with Andre Fortes. There was about five days of disaster, everybody got fucking slaughtered, and I barely got out of there myself. The third one was a Nicaraguan operation. It was all going to be done in Saint Julian. What I didn't know was that they were flying the B-26s out and filling them with bombs and unloading them, putting them in the bunker. All the bombs and the fifty caliber shells and rockets are being stored in the bunker. At Saint Julian we only had officially, we only had two F-51s, we had TDM that was being repaired, an AT-6 that we were putting together at Aeronautical technical school. But

unbeknownst to me, all the Nicaraguans pilots and a bunch of Cuban pilots were getting everything ready at Saint Julian to get straight to fucking Puerto Cabazes [phonetic] and knock the shit out of them. A Nicaraguan named Francisco Frixione [phonetic] contacted a number of troopers in the Paratroop Regiment to recruit volunteers for a Nicaraguan expedition. About 15 of my paratroopers were involved.

The expedition turned out to be well infiltrated with anti-Castro personnel and Batistianos. Its primarily aim was the acquisition of arms for anti-Castro revolutionaries, and to embarrass Fidel Castro by tying him politically to a movement designed to overthrow Anastasio Somoza. The expedition never left Cuba and Frixione's men were captured in Camaguey sometime during September 1959. HEMMING:

You had two invasions of Nicaragua. Somoza got into the act too, he was happier than shit. Nobody could figure why these people weren't shot, why there wasn't a state of siege declared. The real guerillas, things got real peaceful for them. Pastora told us right away that everything got peaceful as shit when this invasion stuff started going down. Like a fucking joke. They were all provocations.

In **March 1960**, "another Government agency that conducts personnel and intelligence investigations [the CIA]" made available to the FBI information concerning GERRY HEMING [sic], who was then residing in Havana, Cuba: "HEMING was described as an American with the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force, stationed in Pinar del Rio. It was reported that he claimed to be a T-33 jet pilot whose mission was to intercept United States-based airplanes which fly over Cuba to destroy sugar cane fields...This information indicated HEMING was an associate of Major William A. Morgan."

On **April 4, 1960**, HEMMING was mentioned in a CIA Intelligence Report titled: "Persons in Cuba Involved in Nicaraguan Revolutionary Affairs." The CIA reported:

In February 1960 Pastora Molina, Nicaraguan opposition leader who left Costa Rica about February 20, 1960, after leading guerilla attacks against Nicaraguan regime from Costa Rica border area for several months, was winning increasing support among Cubans who favored the overthrow of Nicaraguan President Luis Somoza. If Pastora initiated a campaign against the Nicaraguan Government, he could count on immediate substantial aid in arms and men from Cuba. The Cubans would arrange public demonstrations to seek aid for Pastora, ostensibly spontaneous, but in reality, pre-organized with governmental approval. Communists in Cuba would take advantage of the situation to penetrate the revolutionary movement, following the guidance of Che Guevara and Raoul Castro. Fidel Castro, Prime Minister, was not disposed to support foreign revolutions because he feared an invasion of Cuba, and wanted to be in a position to defend his country...Francisco Frixione, Nicaraguan revolutionary leader in Cuba had hoped to attend a meeting of opposition

leaders but was unable to obtain a visa for the trip. Frixione and Enrique Lacayo Farfan, opposition leader in Costa Rica, were quarreling and no longer cooperated...The following paragraphs lists persons in Cuba in February 1960 who were participating in or supporting Nicaraguan revolutionary plans and gives known details of their activities: GERALD P. HEMING, a 23 year old United States citizen born in Los Angeles, California, was employed by the FAR at San Julian as a parachutist. HEMING was engaged in training Nicaraguans and said that there were only 25 parachutists in Cuba...all were willing to fight in Nicaragua and would go well armed. HEMING, also a flyer, was a Marine is (illegible) and at the (illegible) Naval Base, and had been warned when he was fighting with Castro that he could loose his citizenship, but it was not important to him. He said that the base at St. Julian could be used as a location from which to fly food and arms to rebels fighting within Nicaragua. He knew of a number of Belgium automatic rifles that could be made available to Nicaraguan rebels. According to HEMING, a Mexican island 150 miles from Cuba might be used as a base of operations for sending a plane or boat to Nicaragua, since it was poorly policed. He said he would furnish a C-47 aircraft when it was needed. Those associated with the revolutionary activities practiced discretion to avoid having rumors reach Fidel Castro, who did not favor the entire opposition movement, having become discouraged with the disagreements and lost faith among Nicaraguan rebel leaders. The Cuban Minister of Government was aware of these activities and was sympathetic to the cause...

Concerning travel, HEMING said he would like to go to Costa Rica to co-ordinate activities between Cuban and Costa Rican groups. He also hoped to go to the United States, traveling on false name and Cuban passport. He had spoken to William Morgan and believed that Morgan could obtain the passport for him. In the United States HEMING wanted to sell Liberty Bonds in California and obtain arms and planes from a ranch in Texas. He claimed he could do this by using connections he used to obtain similar material when he was aiding Fidel Castro. He also claimed he had gone to Havana to talk with Frixione about the trip, and supplying arms to Pastora. He had wild schemes to steal two small planes from an Air Force base in Texas, possibly Brownsville, and he said he had friends in the Marine Corps who would obtain arms from corps arsenals. Another scheme was to hold up a truck carrying clothing and arms from Virginia to Indianapolis on a regular bimonthly trip...According to HEMING when Castro and Mikoyan visited San Julian they discussed Soviet aid to Cuba, including secret aid in men and arms.

In a Freedom of Information Act Request to the CIA HEMMING asked for documents regarding:

Incident with Major Fidel Castro Ruz and Vice Premier of the USSR, Anastas Mikoyan, at Julian Air Force Base, Cuba, in 1960. Incident regarding United States Air Force C-54 aircraft with U.S. military personnel on board that illegally landed at San Julian Air Base, Cuba, 1960."

HEMMING told this researcher:

The first time they busted me, in **July 1960**, I was 79 days on death row, little monk cells, at La Cabana, where they were shooting people by accident in the middle of the night. They didn't have any room, so they put everyone in Gallery 14. JOHN MARTINO was there. William Morgan was there. The hardcore guys. I got out under another guy's name. When they transferred me to Secret Police Headquarters from La Cabana they called for this guy. I said, 'Hey, I'm him.' It was very fucking slick.

HEMMING also said that Che Guevara persuaded Fidel Castro's intelligence agents (the G-2, later known as the DGI) to release him from military prison on **July 15, 1960**. A **July 19, 1960**, OUSARMA report stated:

In Havana there is a small group of Nicaraguans, Americans and Cubans who composed the Sandio Movement for the Liberation of Nicaragua. Their immediate goal is the gathering of support in the form of materials of war and money from Cuba. And the recruitment of non-Cubans from Latin American countries and the United States to serve in the armed force with which they intend to invade the Republic of Nicaragua. Their ultimate goal is the establishment of their democratic form of government in Nicaragua the later expand to El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala.

This group had the support of Fidel Castro and the Cuban Government as well as Commandante William Morgan and the Second National Front of Escambray, who have promised them weapons, ammunition, clothing and medical supplies. There is also a tentative commitment of money from the 26th of July Movement. Because of the political implications Fidel Castro has refused to commit troops for the movement, saying these must come from elsewhere.

Among the individuals identified as members of this group was JERRY [sic] HEMING, U.S. citizen. Age about 26. Caucasian Height 6' 7". Talkative, of average intelligence, claims to have served in the U.S. Marines. Fought in Cuban revolution, wears Cuban Air Force Uniform. Claims to be a Sergeant in the Cuban Air Force. Stationed at Air Force Base in Pinar del Rio. Presently believed to be in Los Angeles, California, visiting." [FBI HQ 105-86406-p8, Army Intel. Report #2146986: Subject: Sandino Movement. Sam Kail?]

DAVID PHILLIPS was asked: "Now did there ever come a time to your knowledge when the Agency, around the time of the Cuban situation, was organizing bogus invasions of Nicaragua?" PHILLIPS refused to answer, citing his CIA secrecy oath. HEMMING was arrested a second time in August 1960.

HEMMING left Cuba in late **August or early September 1960**. He flew to Mexico and remained there until **October 1960**. In Mexico City HEMMING made contact with the Sandinista underground. HEMMING claimed that one of his contacts was a woman named "Sylvia Duran." HEMMING told this researcher:

The Cubans thought I was in Central America with the Sandinistas. The Sandinistas thought I had gotten misplaced due to being arrested on my way out of Cuba." His own version of his experiences was: "After getting my companions out of Cuba, I made my way to the United States via Central America. Upon arrival in the U.S., I spent long hours typing out CIA reports. After a period of weeks with no orders from the CIA, I decided to drop my cover and proceed to the Miami area.

The FBI reported:

Regarding his past experiences: HEMMING mentioned that he went to Cuba in January 1959 and stayed until August 1960. He said he was in the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force, had worked closely with WILLIAM ALEXANDER MORGAN and had commanded the St Julian Air Force Base located in Pinar del Rio, Cuba, until this base was visited by RAUL CASTRO, head of the Cuban Armed Forces. HEMMING related that RAUL CASTRO did not like Americans in positions of command and had questioned HEMMING concerning his attitude in the event of an invasion of Cuba by American forces. HEMMING said that he replied that "If a man shoots at you, you shoot back regardless of the flag he flies". HEMMING also advised that he "out-sloganed the sloganers", indicating he had talked against American imperialists and adapted his comments to the expediency of the situation. He said in the spring of 1960, MORGAN's position in relation to the Cuban Government began to deteriorate and HEMMING was twice arrested on suspicion of counter-revolutionary activity. He said he continued to wear the uniform of the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force but lived in a hotel in Havana and was inactive for three months. He left Cuba in August 1960 and went to Mexico City where he spent two weeks after which he returned to California.

HEMMING entered the United States in **October 1960**. He was granted a security clearance by the CIA that month; however, this document is still classified as it links HEMMING to CIA. All we have of it is a document that titles it and indicates why it is being withheld.

1	TYPE <b>0</b>	YEAR 80 81 82 83 84	NUMBER <b>0351</b>	DOC. NO. 000614	NEW DOCUMENT RECORD <b>1</b>	
DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION (Circle if appropriate) (30 CHARACTERS)					Instructions for Declass and Staffs: 1. Fill in and Sign on line 7. 2. Use back of form for any additional comments.	
2	CABLE FAX LETTER MEMO REPORT	FORM AIRCRAFT	DOC. NO. 22, P77-0092 (HEMING)	SD 053	DAY MONTH YEAR <b>12 OCT 00</b>	
FROM/ORIGINATOR (30 CHARACTERS)			TO/RECIPIENT (30 CHARACTERS)			
3	<b>LANG</b>			<b>WASHINGTON</b>		
4	CLASS WHERE LOCATED (10 CHARACTERS)	REFERRED BY (10 CHARACTERS)	DDD 1	DO FILE NUMBER (10 CHARACTERS)		
5	SUBJECT (80 CHARACTERS)			CIA HISTORICAL REVIEW PROGRAM RELEASE IN FULL 1998 <b>SECURITY CLEARANCE GRANTED JERRY P. HEMMING</b>		
6	JN.	TYPE OF REVIEW <b>I A</b>	DATE OF REVIEW <b>29 DEC 83</b>	DAY MONTH YEAR <b>6 NOV 86</b>		
7	DETERMINATIONS:			<input type="checkbox"/> A. Release in full text <input type="checkbox"/> B. Release in sanitized form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Deny in toto <input type="checkbox"/> D. Defer decision to (Specify in line 8) <input type="checkbox"/> E. Sustain initial denial in toto <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> F. Sustain initial release of of sanitized version <input type="checkbox"/> G. Release additional information		
8	DEFER DECISION TO (10 CHARACTERS)	COORDINATE WITH (10 CHARACTERS)	NEW CLASS	<b>G</b> <i>R. Holmes</i> <small>SIGNATURE OF DO/NS/PPLC REVIEWING OFFICER</small>		
EXEMPTIONS AND PROVISIONS CLAIMED (40 CHARACTERS)						

When HEMMING returned to Los Angeles he contacted the Los Angeles CIA Domestic Contacts Division on in **late October** and on **November 1, 1960**. HEMMING:

Some proposals were made to me about going back in place. Then another was to take a team in, but I didn't approve of them. I could have gone back overtly. I was the head guy for the Sandinistas. I ran an air base there, flew supply missions and inserted personnel inside Nicaragua. Morgan had been busted and that raised the paranoia level. After Morgan was arrested, I'm talking to OO." The information he gave the Domestic Contacts Division concerned "the markings of Cuban aircraft, operational capabilities and locations, missions, etc. along with reports regarding anti-Communist or anti-Castro leanings of Cuban, Nicaraguan and other nationals within the Cuban Rebel Armed Forces. [CIA 89; JPH ltr. 8.27.75]

The CIA confirmed that "HEMMING was probably telling the truth about furnishing reports to the Field Office...The contact produced 14 reports on Cuba. Our initial contact with HEMMING was in October 1960..." The CIA "Initial debriefs are in OO-3 reports 3/169, 982, 3/170,124, 3/170,077, 3/170,536."

#### HEMMING'S DOMESTIC CONTACTS DIVISION INTERVIEWS

On **October 11, 1960**, (and subsequently on October 12, 1960, and October 21, 1960) the Domestic Contacts Division contacted HENNING, who related the following: He left High School in the middle of his junior year to join the U.S. Marine Corps (enlisted April 19, 1954 #1,488,24).. He reportedly rose to the rank of sergeant and during the later portion of his tour(he was discharged on October 17, 1958) he attended Bainbridge Naval Academy Preparatory School. HENNING claimed to have been accepted into the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps subsequent to his attendance at Bainbridge, and he reportedly was slated to attend the

University of Missouri. He changed his mind and decided not to enter the NROTC program because he wanted to engage in Special Forces type activity. He stated he tried several times to receive training of this type at Ft. Bragg and Ft. Benning but he was not successful. He then decided to leave the service and served the balance of his tour at the Naval Academy, Annapolis, Maryland.

HENNING returned to California in October 1958 and worked at various odd jobs including heavy labor, as he put it "...to get in shape." He left for Cuba by air via Miami on or about February 18, 1959. His reasons for going to Cuba are not completely clear in the mind of this writer (nor does the writer think they are completely clear in HENNING'S mind), but among the reasons undoubtedly are the following:

- a. A strong desire to experience the excitement and glamour of warfare, and particularly guerilla warfare, and the opportunity to gain experience in this field.
- b. The opportunity to combine the above mentioned desire with identification with a 'just' cause.
- c. A desire to see for himself what was going on in Cuba, and possibly to carve a niche for himself from which he might be able to influence later developments.

5. At any rate, HENNING reportedly bluffed his way into the Cuban Army, with no prior connections having been made in the U.S. (He claimed to have contacted officials in the Cuban Counsel's office in Los Angeles prior to his departure and also to have talked to a few 26th of July Movement members including a (FNU) Topenez, but received no help there).

6. He reported that Captain Johnny Mitchell, a U.S. national who in February 1959 was serving at Headquarters, General Staff, Camp Columbia, befriended him and obtained a pass for him. He talked to a number of Cuban officers including Maj. (FNU) Castillo and Maj. Camilo Cienfuegos. The latter sent him to Major Enrico Borbonet Gomez a Fort Benning trained officer (1948 or 1949) who was forming a paratroop regiment.

7. Major Borbonet reportedly did not like HENNING or want him in his unit, but HENNING obtained orders from Camillo detailing him to the paratroop regiment as an officer. Maj. Borbonet refused to accept him as an officer so he went into the unit as a Sergeant about the end of February 1959. He helped train paratroopers first at San Antonio de los banos Air Force Base and later near San Jose de los Lajas, a small town about 35 miles southeast of Havana on the central highway. See 00 reports (Deleted as

of 2010) and (Deleted as of 2010) for FPI gathered from HENNING in initial debriefs. Advance copies of additional FPI collected from him will be forwarded if desired.

8. In December 1959 HENNING transferred to the Cuban Air Force, since the paratroop regiment was obviously bogged down in training and had not even completed one jump. He was stationed at Saint Julian Air Force Base (inactive) where he flew patrols and helped train militia during the day and led some reconnaissance patrols against the anti-revolutionaries at night. He obtained a discharge from the Cuban Air Force in mid-June 1960 (between June 10, 1960 and June 13, 1960) and finally left Havana about August 30, 1960 when he entered the U.S. via San Antonio, Texas.

9. While in the Cuban Army, HENNING became involved with a number of Nicaraguans who allegedly were interested in mounting an invasion of Nicaragua from Cuba. While the details of this story as related by HENNING are somewhat involved, the basic outline is roughly as follows: a Nicaraguan named Farfan contacted a number of troopers in the Paratroop Regiment to recruit volunteers for an expedition to Nicaragua. About 15 of HENNING'S troopers were involved. The expedition turned out to be well-infiltrated with anti-Castro personnel and Batistianos and the expedition appeared to have as its primary aim the acquisition of arms for anti-Castro revolutionaries and also to embarrass Castro by tying him politically to a movement designed to overthrow President Somoza in Nicaragua.

10. The expedition never left Cuba and Farfan's men were captured in Camaguay sometime during September 1959. HENNING alleged that this aborted expedition got him interested in Nicaraguan activities in Cuba and he decided to find out more about them both for his own background and an attempt to protect his men in the Paratroop Regiment. He then initiated contact with a number of Nicaraguans, Cubans, Dominicans, etc. who had as their primary aim the overthrow of established governments either in Nicaragua or the Dominican Republic.

11. HENNING mentioned contact with Chester Lacayo, who reportedly was located at one time in Washington, D.C. and who was attempting to establish a base to train Nicaraguans in Cuba prior to invading Nicaragua; plus contact with (FNU) Ramirez, a Dominican national who had been involved in the stealing of a Cuban plane which was flown to the Dominican Republic; and Dr. Francisco Frixiones, a Nicaraguan exile who had been implicated in the assassination of ex-President Somoza and who had worked closely with Farfan until a break occurred between Frixiones and Farfan in December 1959.

12. HENNING was arrested by the Cuban G-2 on or about July 19, 1960, along with Frixiones and Harold Martinez (who HENNING described as the number two man in the Nicaraguan Movement located in Honduras). The three men were held for about five days then released. Frixiones, according to HENNING, now is located in Venezuela. Harold Martinez had planned to leave Cuba with HENNING and to spend some time in Mexico City. Harold Martinez could not leave the country, according to HENNING, because the Nicaraguan Communists in Cuba had applied pressure to the Cuban Communists in order to prevent his return to Honduras and/or Nicaragua.

13. HENNING also noted that Alejandro Martinez, (Harold's brother) was the leader of a revolutionary column (Frente Revolucionario Sandino) which recently was captured by elements of the Honduran Army. Alejandro reportedly is now in prison in Honduras. HENNING also referred to two Americans located in Chicago, Jack Nordeen and John Sels, who recently were captured in Telucigalpa when they turned over some wounded Nicaraguan rebels to the Honduran Army.

14. These two Americans were removed from a Honduran prison and returned to the U.S. sometime between mid-June and July 1, 1961, under what were rumored in Cuba to be mysterious circumstances. Rumors in Cuba alleged that either CIA or FBI officials were instrumental in having these two men returned to the United States. HENNING states that is his opinion that they both merely were deported from Honduras. He connected these two Americans with a Nicaraguan in Chicago named Guillermo Majia who reportedly is awaiting trial in Chicago on charges of recruiting for a foreign government.

15. HENNING claims to be standing by in anticipation of a journey to Honduras in connection with the movement headed by the Martinez brothers. He maintains that the Martinez brothers are anti-Communists who believe that neither the Cuban nor the Nicaraguan Communists are to be trusted. HENNING claimed that Harold Martinez has close contacts with Cuban counter-espionage officials who have told him that the Counter-Espionage Corps (CEC) regards the other Cuban intelligence agencies (G-2, DIFAR and DIER) as infiltrated by Communists and as enemies of the CEC. HENNING reported that both the Martinez brothers and Frixiones were very much afraid that any move they participated in Nicaragua would merely open the door for the Nicaraguan Communists in Cuba to move in and exploit that chaotic situation for their own benefit.

16. HENNING may have decided to contact CIA because of remarks made by a Sgt. Aldo Busto and by Dr. Francisco Frixione. Busto, an ex-Batista soldier who was a fugitive from the Castro regime when HENNING left Cuba, reportedly said the CIA helped out in Guatemala and that it

would be a good thing if they could help out in Cuba. Dr. Frixiones stated that Chester Lacayo had been close to right in contacting U.S. Secretary of State Christian Herter in an attempt to elicit support for Lacayo's Nicaraguan revolutionary movement.

17. While it is difficult to assess HENNING'S true motives for his past activities, and possibly still more difficult to ascertain where his true loyalties lie, it does appear that he might be useful either now or in the near future. From conversations to date (three short sessions) it appears that HENNING is not so closely allied with his Nicaraguan friends that he would find it impossible to concentrate his attention elsewhere. His interest in Special Forces type activity appears to transcend all other interests, and he probably would not hesitate to return to Cuba if such were thought useful.

18. His rationale in discussing his connection with the Nicaraguan movement (the Martinez brothers) ties in directly with his (and many others) general thesis of intelligence operations connected with revolutionary movements. HENNING maintains that the United States should utilize a number of Special Forces types who may be able to penetrate certain revolutionary movements at an early stage, attain positions of real influence within the organizations, and subsequently attempt to channel the movement's activities into areas which are most favorable, or at worst least detrimental to U.S. interests. He foresees the inevitable fall of President Somoza in Nicaragua and, furthermore, that this fall will be brought about by the Martinez brothers. He also claims to recognize the dangers of Communist takeover inherent in the overthrow of President Somoza, and he hopes that the United States will be quick to prevent such, presumably through the use of people like himself.

19. HENNING maintains that he is "first and foremost" an American, and that his true loyalty remains with this country. This may well be true, but it should be noted that his reasoning appears to be based primarily on his respect for the superior ability exhibited by the U.S. military personnel he has served with in the past. He appears to be little influenced by deep beliefs in democratic principles.

HEMMING told this researcher: "Whenever I checked in with 00, they told ANGLETON. He probably had a flag on my name. Before they can interview and debrief you they got to give a preliminary security clearance. It goes to ANGLETON. I was debriefed on October 11, 1960." On **October 28, 1960**, the CIA generated the following Official Routing Slip: "To Acting Chief, CI Station. (initials illegible). C/CI/SIG Remarks: This would appear to be your department. If not, please let me know. If yes, would you prepare a reply for Mr. Bissell's signature. Suspense November 7, 1960. DDP/ASST. [Handwritten notation followed] I to Z Please handle Subject so sources 12b, SR, EG

(Ann Egerton who worked for Angleton] (deleted) and project. I think an (illegible) answer might be sent (illegible)."

10351

DOCUMENT DESCRIPTION (Enter if appropriate) (10 CHARACTERS)		2 Use back of form for any additional comments		
TYPE	FORM	Doc. No. 25 P-77-0092 (Hemming)*		
DISPATCH	LETTER	WAF 513207 (Hemming)*		
MEMO		7 Mar 84		
REPORT	AMERICAN			
FROM/ORIGINATOR (10 CHARACTERS)		TO/RECIPIENT (10 CHARACTERS)		
WA		LANG		
CLASS	WHERE LOCATED (10 CHARACTERS)	REFERRED BY (10 CHARACTERS)	DDO	DO FILE NUMBER (10 CHARACTERS)
SUBJECT (10 CHARACTERS)				
OS granted ad hoc clearance thru CONF for				
G. P. Hemming.		TYPE OF REVIEW	A (0)	DATE OF REVIEW
				18 SEP 84
DETERMINATIONS:				
<input type="checkbox"/> A. Release in full text <input type="checkbox"/> B. Release in sanitized form <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> C. Deny in toto <input type="checkbox"/> D. Defer decision to (Specify in line 8) <input type="checkbox"/> E. Sustain initial denial in toto <input type="checkbox"/> F. Sustain initial release of <input type="checkbox"/> G. Release additional information				
DEFER DECISION TO (10 CHARACTERS) (COORDINATE WITH 10 CHARACTERS)	NEW CLASS	 <small>SIGNATURE OF DO/IMR/PLG REVIEWING OFFICER</small>		
EXEMPTIONS AND PROVISIONS CLAIMED (10 CHARACTERS)				

The FBI reported in **January 1961**: "Although HEMMING claims to be anti-Communist, he is amoral...he is capable of anything..." [FBI HQ 2-16963-p2] On **February 13, 1961**, JOSE CRUZ HERNANDEZ, Los Angeles, California, manager of a Cuban relief house operated by the Society to Aid Cuban Anti-Communists, advised that on the previous day a man who said his first name was GERRY appeared at CRUZ's home. "GERRY appeared to be an American and said he was paratrooper in the Army of FIDEL CASTRO under the command of WILLIAM A. MORGAN. GERRY said that he had been a trainer of Militiamen in Cuba and that he had been to Nicaragua in 1959 and 1960. GERRY told CRUZ that he had been in Los Angeles a year and expected to return to Nicaragua, expressing the belief that Nicaragua would be successful in its revolution and would overthrow the SOMOZA regime there."

The CIA granted HEMMING a POA and reported:

HEMMING informed Hendrickson of the Los Angeles Field Office that he is moving to Miami, Florida, and would arrive there **Monday, March 20, 1961**. Subject stated he was going to contact Jimmy Gentry and at that time the two men were going to proceed with a plan of activities aimed at organizing a small group of 'Professionals' (experienced revolutionaries) who would attempt to conduct certain reconnaissance operations on the mainland of Cuba via parachute drops and either light plane or water pickups. Subject stated he wanted to do what he could in Miami to attempt to unite anti-Castro forces there and also lessened influence of a number of 'mercenaries' who had joined various of these movements and were doing it more harm than good while bleeding off much of the available money. [OO-1 3/163,427 March 31, 1961] One report indicates that in March 1961

HEMMING informed Hendrickson of the Los Angeles Field Office that he had moved to Miami Florida...DD/P has never had any operation relationship with HEMMING. Our records reflect no contact with HEMMING occurred until March 16, 1967. [CIA Memo Seq. Docs. HSCA 2.10.65; HSCA Seq. Doc.00055]

Another CIA report stated:

HEMMING was approved for an ad hoc contact clearance on **March 6, 1961**. He was the source of 15 contact reports on Cuba... Subject's file reflects an ad hoc clearance was granted on **March 6, 1961**, for debriefing on military, economic and political developments in various Latin American countries. At that time HEMMING was engaged in revolutionary activities in Nicaragua. On June 2, 1961, the Contact Office was advised that National Agency Name Checks on HEMMING disclosed no pertinent derogatory information.

INTERPEN'S PREDECESSOR, THE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEGIONARIES IS BORN  
LATE APRIL 1961





Ronald Ponce DeLeon



Roy Hargraves



Ramigio Arce



James Arthur Lewis



William Seymour



Ed Collins



Bill Dempsey



Dick Whatley



Oscar Del Pino



Dennis Harber



Ralph Schlafter



Manuel Aguilar

The Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba failed in April 1961; at that point HEMMING put together INTERPEN, aka PATRICK'S Raiders by taking over a group assembled by George Tanner of Miami. Many early INTERPEN members had previously been associated STURGIS and Rolando Masferrer. Others were attracted as a result of the publicity generated by STURGIS and HEMMING in the press. HEMMING'S crew lived at Nellie Hamilton's boarding house UNTIL July 1961 when she kicked their asses out because of all the law enforcement and media people who visited her boarding house. HEMMING described the group as composed of young Americans "who had been upset as the result of the unsuccessful Cuban invasion." On May 11, 1961 and May 18, 1961 the FBI in Miami, Florida, generated a document about HEMMING titled "ANTI-Communist Legionnaires, File 2-312." The FBI reported:

On April 28, 1961, MM T-1 advised that the leader of the ANTI-COMMUNIST LEGIONNAIRES was a tall American, name unknown, who

had been recruiting members for the organization with the view of conducting future military action against Cuba. On May 1, 1961, MM T-1 identified this American as JERRY (Last Name Unknown), about 6' 5" tall, weighing 230 pounds, and who claimed that he had been in jail in Cuba after having trained paratroopers in Cuba with the CASTRO Government and guerrillas and rebels in Nicaragua. MM T-1 said that about 20 members of this group had established a camp west of Miami in the Everglades where they were living on available vegetation.

On **April 29, 1961**, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING was interviewed in connection with another investigation. HEMMING said ,that he was one of the leaders of the ANTI-COMMUNIST LEGIONNAIRES and active in the organization. He said he had gone to Cuba in February 1959 and remained there until August 1960. While there he was a member of the Cuban Revolutionary Army, was later in the Cuban Revolutionary Air Force as a Sergeant and received a salary of \$70.00 to 00.00 a month on an irregular basis. In about August 1960, he went to Mexico City and contacted members of the Nicaragua Revolutionary Movement. In September 1960, he traveled from Mexico to Los Angeles, California. HEMMING said that in about March 1961, he received a telephone call from one JAMES GENTRY in Miami, suggesting that he come to Miami in order to participate in Cuban anti-Communist revolutionary activities. HEMMING identified GENTRY as an American citizen who had previously served as a lieutenant in the Cuban Revolutionary Army.

In **May 1961** this letter from HEMMING appeared in *Sky Diver Magazine*:

Greetings Smogville Jumpers:

Thought I would pass on some scoop. Many of the East Coast Sky Divers are to be found presently in the ranks of certain active anti-Castro rebel groups. These same groups are the ones conducting the P.T. boat raids and are the only ones running the B-25, B-26 and light aircraft parachute missions..."

HEMMING told this researcher:

**May 1961.** I typed a document up and a guy came around six months later and said, 'a woman complained in Michigan that her son was being recruited for operations in Cuba and you sent out this.' I sent out a bulletin to the people directing them to go to their nearest skydiver club, or the reserves, and don't come to Miami. I would get tons of letters from these assholes and I had to crank something up to stop 'em. And that's what ANGLETON had a copy of cause ANGLETON approved the son-of-a...

Later, HEMMING said:

He was being made aware that it was being done, and the reasons it was being done, because it would appear that I was recruiting U.S. citizens.

Contact with Venezuelans

**On May 25, 1961** MM-T-1 advised that Hemming had made contact with a PRATO (first name unknown) an associate of Marcos Jimenez Perez, former head of the Venezuelan Government presently residing in Miami Beach, Florida. Hemming had offered his services to Jimenez Perez for future revolutionary activity in Venezuela. (deleted as of 2010) later took (deleted as of 2010) and (deleted as of 2010) members of INTERPEN and (deleted as of 2010) to see (deleted as of 2010). However (deleted as of 2010) was unable to confer with them because he was too busy with the matter concerning his (deleted) to be held in the United States District Court in Miami. (deleted as of 2010) said that (deleted as of 2010) wondered how it was possible for American adventurers such as the Interpen members to maintain a training camp, wear uniforms and practice military maneuvers in the United States after they have publically stated they plan to violate United States Neutrality Laws by proposed military attacks against Cuba. (deleted as of 2010) expressed some apprehension in cooperating with them for fear he would be arrested by United States authorities (deleted as of 2010) and (deleted as of 2010) at a later time concerning offering their services and these of Interpen to (deleted as of 2010).

[highly deleted paragraph follows]

Hemming had another plan to obtain a (deleted) to take his group on a commando raid against Cuba. However, he was unable to obtain access to this boat. MM T-1 explained that Hemming has a new and different plan daily, does not follow through on any of them, and none of them ever succeed.

CONSTANTINE N. KANGLES

An FBI document concerning HEMMING titled "Constantine N. Kangles," was generated on **May 29, 1961**. [FBI 105-3530] HEMMING told this researcher:

He represented Cuba and Fidel in some lawsuits that Chuck Ashmann, our lawyer, started. We met him through Bob Brown. He had a lot of influence with people. He was a Greek Jew. He worked with the OSS in Greece. Now they have an interest in me dealing with him after the Bay of

Pigs. Isn't that interesting? I was trying to keep the prisoners from being executed.

The FBI reported:

HEMMING was re-contacted on **June 8, 1961**, at which time he stated that he had met JAMES GENTRY, mentioned above, in February 1959, at Camp Libertad, located near Havana, Cuba. HEMMING mentioned that he was also acquainted with various members of the Nicaraguan Revolutionary Movement, also known as the Sandino Movement, as this group had had a nucleus in Havana during 1959 and the early part of 1960. HEMMING stated that he had associated with the Cuban Revolutionary Army during the period February 1959 to August 1960.

On **June 27, 1961**, the United States Border Patrol advised that Inspector Harry Rhodes, of the United States Border Patrol at Homestead, Florida, received a call from fisherman off Julia Island in the Florida Keys that some shooting was going on. "Upon arrival, Inspector Rhodes discovered that HEMMING and his group were conducting a jungle survey training class, and HEMMING had in his possession only one .22 caliber rifle, a small amount of ammunition and some equipment. The rifle shot apparently ricocheted and barely missed hitting a nearby fisherman. Those with HEMMING were identified as [various men not prominent in the anti-Castro struggle]." On June 28, 1961, F.J. Baumgardner sent a Memo to William Sullivan regarding: "Anti-Communist Legionaries, Neutrality Matters." The document stated that

The Washington Capitol News Service, **June 27, 1961**, indicated that JERRY PATRICK, head of INTERPEN, allegedly associated with Junta Revolucionaria de Liberacion Nacional, had been practicing parachute jumping with members of his organization. The Director inquired: 'What do we know of this?'

We are well aware of the recent activites of Patrick. His true name is Gerald Patrick Hemming; however he has used the last names of Patrick, Henning and Hannon. He is originally from California but arrived in the Miami area in early May 1961. He became the leader of a small group of men attracted to that by newspaper publicity on the Cuban situation. The group became known as the Anti-Communist Legionnaires. The members were reportedly living in the Everglades on snakes and swamp cabbage and had no housing. Miami has an informant (Deleted) who has reported the group has only 15 to 20 members who are described as mercenaries, vagrants and adventurers and unreliable delinquents with an average age of about 22 years. No training camp is maintained but periodically, the group goes into the Everglades for training purposes to impress Cuban and Venezuelan groups hoping to get donations. Hemming has reportedly visited most of the Cuban Revolutionary organizations seeking donation and offering his services but has been refused. The group seeks publicity;

has no arms, equipment or transportation; is not accepted in the Cuban Revolutionary Movement; and the informant does not anticipate any expeditions by the group.

According to the news release HEMMING claims his group is associated with the Junta Revolucionaria de Liberacion Nacional. We have no information indicating any such affiliation. This latter organization is an anti-Castro group headed by Aureliano Sanchez Arango and was reportedly created in March 1961 following a meeting of 117 Cuban organizations. We are following the activities of the Junta from an intelligence standpoint and on April 25, 1961, we also requested the Department to advise if its activities indicated a violation of Neutrality Statutes warranting investigation. The Department advised on May 15, 1961 that it was soliciting views of CIA concerning the group. No additional reply has been received from the Department.

The group headed by Hemming has had a large turnover in membership. It has been variously known as the Anti-Communist Legion, Anticommunist Legionaries, Revolutionary Force for Democratic Cuba and now most recently, as the Intercontinental Penetration Force (INTERPEN). All information received concerning Hemming and his group and associates has been disseminated to State, CIA, military agencies, Customs, INS and to the Department. On May 23, 1961 the Internal Security Division was requested to advise if the activities of Hemming's group indicated violations of neutrality statutes warranting further investigation. No reply has been received to date from the Department. All pertinent information received concerning this group will continue to receive the above dissemination.

HOOVER HAND WRITTEN NOTE: "Follow up on Internal Security Div. It has been over a month since we asked for rulings." [FBI 2-1973-17]

On **June 28, 1961**, the FBI in Miami reported:

MM-T1 advised the membership has a high turnover, inasmuch as newspaper publicity caused these adventurers to come to Miami, but lack of any serious accomplishment causes them to become disillusioned and leave. At any one time, there are several members in jail in Miami for fighting, vagrancy and drunkenness. They beg food from Cuban grocery stores, are not employed, are usually without funds, and are dressed in Army combat clothes, boots, and a number of them wear beards. HEMMING and his group are interested in adventure and are willing to go to any Latin American country to engage in any revolution, not knowing the issues, reliability of the revolutionists, or the political ideology involved. HEMMING and his group are completely irresponsible and are not expected to accomplish any positive action and are stimulated by publicity

given to them in the Miami, Florida, newspapers but lack of accomplishment causes them to become disillusioned and leave.

MM T-1 on **June 5, 1961** advised that Tom Cain and Frank (LNU) Interpen members, about a month previously went to Chicago, Illinois and contacted headquarters of the Frente Revolutionarie Democratico (The Cuban Revolutionary Democratic Front FRD) an alliance group of anti-Communist organizations. Cain and Frank were seeking aid and back for Interpen from the FRD.

MM-T1 said that at that time Interpen consisted of about fourteen members most of them were staying at 1925 Southwest 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the resident of a Mrs. Nellie Hamilton, who allows them to stay there free, and frequently provides meals for them.

MM T-2 (deleted as of 2010) and who has furnished reliable information in the past advised that Tomas Gamba is an assistant to Manuel Antonio Varona, the co-ordinator of the FRD. MM T-2 said that it would be extremely doubtful that Gamba or any other FRD official would in any way help or take into membership any American group of volunteers. MM T-1 subsequently advised that Hemming and (Deleted as of 2010) contacted (deleted as of 2010) at FRD headquarters on June 6, 1961. (Deleted as of 2010) the FRD's policy has always been against accepting Americans and it was extremely doubtful that Interpen would receive any aid from the FRD. MM T-1 explained that HEMMING and INTERPEN members have contacted many other Cuban organizations and individuals, seeking money donations, equipment and members, but they have always been refused.

*The Miami Herald*, on June 27, 1961, contained an article concerning INTERPEN...that stated the existence of this group was known by *The Herald*, but it became generally known to the public on June 26, 1961, after Florida Senator George A. Smathers disclosed that Cuban exiles are training in Florida. The article said that Senator Smathers disclosure on a nation-wide radio network brought other newsmen and television cameramen to INTERPEN headquarters on June 26, 1961. [w/h FBI HQ 2-1693-18 pages 10 - 11 Border Patrol / w/h HQ 2-1693-18 p3)

The CIA: "FBI reports 19-9/1 DBF 77030 May 15, 1961, and DBF 76893, May 11, 1961. Subject described as a Castro infiltrator. People in Miami afraid to move against him because of his strong personality and influence he has over those under his jurisdiction." [C/Contact CO Support]

## SENATOR GEORGE SMATHERS



In 1994 HEMMING stated: "He was a friend because we had shit on him. He was getting payoffs from Somoza and Trujillo." When the media came, HEMMING stated: "INTERPEN was part of the International Anti-Communist Brigade, which was associated with the Revolutionary Junta of National Liberation, led by Aureliano Sanchez Arrango." [FBI 2-1693-18] In a Freedom of Information Request to the FBI HEMMING asked for records concerning his "Operations with Cuban exile group headed by Dr. Aureliano Sanchez Arrango that included employees of Howard R. Hughes (Hughes Tool Company) including C. Osmeet Moody et. al. organized crime figures, and CIA operatives from 1961 to 1962." On **June 28, 1961**, after Senator George Smathers' announcement, *The Miami Herald* published a feature story by Dom Bonafede about INTERPEN; the article had previously been withheld because the *Herald* claimed it concerned a sensitive area of national policy. *The Herald*: "Smathers disclosure Sunday night on a nationwide radio network brought other newsman and T.V. cameramen flocking around INTERPEN Headquarters Monday afternoon. The INTERPEN Garrison is led by GERRY PATRICK, a young giant who stands six feet seven inches tall. With his long wavy hair, neatly trimmed tuft of beard and Australian bush hat, he looks a little like Errol Flynn in his early matinee days... 'We weed out all the crackpots and bums.'" The article went on to describe the training which the members of INTERPEN received - living on swamp cabbage and parachute jumping and concluded: "Another anti-Castro band of Americans in Miami is lead by Vincent Hannard, a former registered agent for Castro who went over to the other side."

The CIA reported,

In May, 1961, Vincent Joseph Hannard, Miami private detective, formed a group called the Freedom Fighters. This organization of about fifty men consisted of Cuban exile revolutionaries, American mercenaries and adventurers. The purpose of the group was to invade Cuba and overthrow Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro. HARGRAVES was one of the leading members of this group. The group dissolved after several months when they realized Hannard had been in a mental institution and was completely psychotic. In 1963, in U.S. District Court, Miami, HANNARD was sentenced to two years probation and \$1,000 fine for impersonating a Federal Agent. In November 1961 HARGRAVES lived in Miami, with an unidentified American girl. He had long hair, a beard and was periodically engaged in burglaries. At that time he was associated with Rolando Masferrer Rojas, the former Cuban Senator who had a group of men in Miami who were planning military operations against Cuba. Also in 1961 HARGRAVES was active with GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, an American mercenary in Miami who had formed a group of 20 or 30 men for the purpose of invading Cuba. Most of HEMMING'S recruits were military deserters, fugitives, degenerates and psychopaths. HARGRAVES was one of the leading members of HEMMING'S group.

HEMMING 1994:

I tried to stop them from running the article. Bonafede was a CIA agent with journalistic cover. He was told to write the stories and invent a whole bunch of horseshit. We had no choice.

On **June 29, 1961**, Senator George Smathers held a press conference in Washington, D.C., and reported preparations for another invasion of Cuba were not receiving any cooperation from the U.S. Government. [FBI 2-1693-NR 6.29.61.] Senator George Smathers, a friend of Batista, had won his Senate seat using red-baiting tactics similar to those used by NIXON. In 1970, when files of the JFK Library were made public, a tape recording revealed that Senator George Smathers had pestered President Kennedy to assassinate Fidel Castro. President Kennedy refused, and told Senator George Smathers that the CIA frequently did things he did not know about and that he was unhappy with the Agency. He complained to Senator George Smathers that the CIA was almost autonomous. On June 29, 1961 HEMMING was mentioned in an FBI document titled: "Roberto R. Pino, Augstin Capo, Adolfo Perez-Prieto, Paul Mena, Niva Reyes Balsera, Leonardo Rolando Balsera, FBI Field 105-3895; Bureau 105-98261." George Armistead Smathers died on Monday January 15, 2007. His father was a federal judge, his uncle was a United States Senator. He is survived by Bruce Smathers of Jacksonville, John Smathers of Arlington, Carolyn Hyder Smathers, and Virginia Meyers of Coral Gables. (NYT January 22, 2007) After INTERPEN received national publicity, a Department Of Justice spokesman warned STURGIS that an investigation of the International Anti-Communist Brigade was under way.

#### INTERPEN/INTERNATIONAL ANTI-COMMUNIST BRIGADE

The FBI reported:

On **July 2, 1961** HEMMING with about five mercenaries and Cuban exiles dressed in military uniforms, put on an airdrop parachuting show for the press at the airport at Davie, Florida. Also in July 1961 HEMMING was contacting different Cuban exile groups in Miami offering them training camp facilities and seeking their contributions in dollar donations and weapons. (Deleted as of 2010) HEMMING claimed he went to Cuba and contacted representatives of the Cuban underground. Antonio Perez Quesada, Cuban exile boat captain, on interview admitted he took HEMMING and six others to Cuba on August 12, 1961 where they stayed about 42 hours. However, neither HEMMING or his men made any contact with the Cuban underground or militia.

On **July 10, 1961**, *The Miami Herald* ran an article by Dom Bonafede about HEMMING entitled "We Choose How We'll Be Killed."

In Cuba HEMMING joined up with Castro's hill-based rebels as a paratroop instructor. During this period he became friends with William

Morgan...PATRICK still stands by Morgan. 'He was a pretty good damn head, damn good, the kind of guy hard to find...PATRICK also has a personal reason for wanting to return to Cuba. He left a Cuban wife behind. 'They, the Castro Government) don't know who she is. It wouldn't be good for her if they did. I think she is trying to get over here - but I don't know. I haven't heard from her in five months.

On **July 11, 1961**, six INTERPEN members were arrested in the woods near Forman Field and charged with vagrancy. [*Miami Herald* 7.11.61] July 1961 was the month that it was announced that STURGIS' International Anti-Communist Brigade merged with INTERPEN and became INTERPEN/International Anti-Communist Brigade. HEMMING 1994:

There was no merger. INTERPEN/International Anti-Communist Brigade never existed. It was a meeting with STURGIS at Forman Field one fucking day in May 1961. We were rivals, we didn't get along. Two of my guys wanted to kill FRANK'S ass. Whatley and Willis. Willis was a strange one from Chicago. Bobby Willis was arrested in Guatemala in 1954, caused a big stink because he gave his name as Otto Skorzeny. [A Nazi war criminal] One of Masferrer's boys, FRANK'S boys, along with Bucky (Jerry) Buchanan. He came over to us when he got tired of FRANK'S bullshit. None of his people ended up in No Name, no way José. Howard Davis worked a couple of deals with him.

I asked HEMMING: "If you and FRANK weren't buddies, how come one night you told me to meet you on a street corner in Little Havana if I wanted certain documents? When I showed up, you weren't there. A few minutes later, FRANK and this overgrown Cuban drove up to me as if they were going to assassinate me? I ducked behind a building when I saw them. FRANK got a big laugh." HEMMING explained:

They were tapping the fucking phones, the place was bugged, wherever the fuck we were talking. I didn't deal with fucking FRANK. During the *Spotlight* trial STURGIS gave [Attorney] Ellis Rubin a long list of things I had done to work against him. I remember two conversations with STURGIS.

On **July 31, 1961** the FBI generated a report on INTERPEN. [FBI 2-312 (field) 2-1693 (Bureau)]

HEMMING AUGUST 1961

On August 11, 1961, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING had been in contact with ELOY GUTIERREZ MENOYO, a Cuban exile leader in the Miami area. According to MM T-1, GUTIERREZ was planning to send ten of his men by boat on a mission to Cuba. Four of the men were to stay in Cuba

while others would spend some time on British islands north of Cuba, including Anguila Key where it was believed some arms have been buried.

On **August 16, 1961**, HEMMING and nine Cuban exiles who were connected to Eloy Menoyo piloted a fishing boat to Cuba and carried out an anti-Castro mission. The CIA: "INTERPEN had no Agency connection. Although HEMMING is not accepted by leading Cuban organizations, he is well-known to them." [Garrison Invest. CIA traces 12.2867 73.] In August 1961 a con man named George Damon tried to hustle CIA money from desperate exiles by claiming that "Jerry Patrick is now in Cuba and has as his mission, the demolition of generator stations. Patrick at the present time is setting off about a pound of TNT nightly to create terror and confusion. When Patrick's mission is completed he will receive \$10,000." HEMMING offered his services to the CIA in **August 1961**. An Official Routing Slip [*Allen v. DOD* 07595-1398 8.28.61] read: "I received letter from Subject offering services again. (Deleted) is recommending no (illegible)." HEMMING 1994:

This came from Jim Sprague who ran a Naval Reserve Detachment right next to the *Miami News* Building and he was supposed to be ONI, he was really CIA, along with Steve Czukas of U. S. Customs.

On **September 26, 1961** the CIA informed that FBI that a source had been approached by four Americans who said they wished to volunteer to fight for the liberation of Cuba. They were "Little" Joe Garman, William Dempsey, Jim Bruce a Korean War veteran from Texas, and Patrick Stepanick who said he fought with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo. The CIA:

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
TO: FBI PAPICH  
FROM: Deputy Director / Plans  
SUBJECT: United States Citizens Who Wish to Volunteer to Fight for the Liberation of Cuba.

1. The following information received from a usually reliable source is forwarded as being of possible interest to the Bureau.
2. Source advised that he was visited by four Americans who were interested in volunteering to join an anti-Castro training group. The four men gave their names as Jim Bruce, who claimed to be from Texas and who fought in the Korean War, Pat Stepanick, who claimed he fought with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, William Morgan and other in the Escambray for more than one year; Bill Dempsey, who claimed to be a veteran of the Korean War and one referred to as "Little Joe" who did not give his true name. Bruce claimed to be the leader of the group, however Little Joe did most of the talking and according to the source, appeared to be most intelligent and competent of the group.

During the conversation with the source the group volunteered the the following information:

- a. They had come from Texas and other distant places to join the Cubans and fight for the liberation of Cuba.
- b. They can gather more than 100 combat experienced men at any moment and that these men have knowledge of arms, military training etc.
- c. They are not politically minded and do not want to join or become a part of any private political movement.
- d. They made the decision to fight for Cuba because they consider that the men directing the United States Government are "incompetent and incapable of action" if the (U.S. Government) men were to decide to help the Cubans 'it would be in a clandestine manner, would force the Cubans to follow orders from the United States and would lead them to another failure.' For the above reasons, the four Americans wish to join the Cubans and fight independently.
- e. They would not mind loosing their United States citizenship by fighting with the Cubans, however, they want to be guaranteed the right to remain in Cuba if the war is won and they survive. They feel the United States has lost all its international prestige due to inactivity.
- f. That they are friends of 'PATRICK' (GERALD PATRICK HENNING) the man who has received some publicity in the Miami papers concerning his training of Cuban paratroopers.
- g. They feel they can count on some groups of persons in Canada to join them.
- h. They stated they had visited the Cuban Revolutionary Front offices on Biscayne Boulevard and had been sent to a recruiting office at 914 W. 12th Street.
- i. They are temporarily residing at 1936 S. W. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Miami, and their economic situation is quite bad.

4. Source stated that he was under the impression that these four men wanted to be recruited immediately as they have no money and no resources to continue waiting; all they want is to be fed and sent to a training camp to fight with the Cubans.

5. A check of the file of this office reveals no identifiable information concerning Jim Bruce, Bill Dempsey and "Little Joe." On Patrick Stepanick

was the subject of a report received from the Bureau, dated June 7, 1961. Gerald Patrick Hemming Jr. has been the Subject of numerous correspondences between the Bureau and this Agency. Any further information concerning the activities of the above individuals which might come to the attention of this office will be forward to the Bureau.

CSCI-3/767,435

cc: Department of State

Department of the Army

WH/FI-CI/PMiller:mt

Based on (Deleted) - 2192 August 23, 1961, WH/4/Records

September 26, 1961.

Distribution: Orig & 1 Addressees, 1-RID, 1 -CI/LIA, 1 - CI/ R&a, 1 - WH/4/R, 2 - WH/4/FI-CI.

This document was also referred to as: "(Deleted) August 24, 1961 CSCI-3/767,435." [CIA 100-9-14 October 4, 1961; Info on HEMMING from various sources NARA 1993.08.03.19:05:37:060039] The CIA reported that on October 4, 1961, HEMMING: "Met with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo and planned to establish base outside of U.S. for training and future attacks against Cuba." [CIA DBF 91349 10.4.61 100-9-14] In October 1961 the FBI generated five reports concerning HEMMING. Two concerned INTERPEN. One of these was dated October 4, 1961, and covered the investigative period from **July 22, 1961, to September 21, 1961**. Most of this document has been withheld. FBI informant Howard Kenneth Davis reported:

On August 14, 1961, MM T-1, who has been connected with Cuban revolutionary activities for the past four years, and who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised that Gerald Patrick Hemming had been in contact with Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo, a Cuban national living in Miami and a former member of the Cuban Revolutionary Army.

MM T-1 explained that Hemming is a twenty-four year old American soldier of fortune who previously served in the United States Marine Corps and who has been in Miami the past several months trying to organize an invasion force to overthrow the Cuban Government. MM T-1 said that Menoyo was planning to send ten of his men by boat on a mission to Cuba. Four of the men were to stay in Cuba. Another four would spend approximately ten days on Anguila Key, Cay Sal Bank, British islands located North of Cuba. This group would attempt to locate arms which they think are buried on Anguila Key. Menoyo was not expected to participate personally, but he is in charge of this operation.

On August 16, 1961, MM T-1 advised that on August 11, 1961, Hemming went to see Menoyo, with the idea of going to the Cay Sal Islands to obtain arms reportedly buried there. Menoyo said he was sending people to Anguila Key, to recover arms previously buried there. Menoyo offered to

take Hemming along, if Hemming shaved his beard, got a haircut, and submitted to Menoyo's directions and instructions. Hemming quickly accepted. Menoyo reportedly has a large boat, location unknown, but docked at a place where his group would have to sneak aboard so they would not be seen. Menoyo planned to send about nine people on this mission. Four or five would wait at Anguila Key, and the other four would go to Cuba, where they would remain. Menoyo's boat presumably would return from Cuba to Anguila Key, and then to the United States. The whole trip was expected to take about ten days, and the exact purpose of this mission was unknown.

On about August 13, 1961, Hemming and the other nine people from Menoyo's group left Miami. Menoyo indicated that if the arms on Anguila Key could be recovered, he would sell them in Miami to Cuban revolutionists, steal them back, and again resell them. It was not known where this group went to board Menoyo's boat.

On August 26, 1961, MM T-1 advised that he had been in contact with Hemming, who said that he arrived back in Miami on August 24, 1961. Hemming said that he and about eleven others went to Cuba on a sixty-five foot commercial fishing boat, which had both power and sail. The group went to Cayo Frances located off Matangas and Camaguey Provinces in Cuba.

MM T-1 stated that they contacted the under-ground in Cuba, stayed in Cuba three or four days and subsequently returned to Miami. HEMMING said that when they left Miami they were stopped by the U.S. Coast Guard and when asked their destination, the Cubans pretended they did not speak English. The Coast Guard presumed that they were fishermen and let them go. MM T-1 said that they were a total of eleven men on the boat, and it was originally planned that four of the men, who had been trained with the Cuban refugee forces in Guatemala, would remain in Cuba. However, these four decided to return to the U.S. On August 28, 1961, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING had subsequently stated that this group had visited Cuba and visited Punto de Alegre, which is northwest of Camaguey Province, and had also visited Cayo Coco. The group took photographs which they considered to be of future military value. HEMMING said that they spent some time at one island, which had a militia camp, and that the captain of the boat used by the group, who is well known, went ashore with HEMMING and one of the men, and had contact with the underground.

HEMMING said that he had taken with him an M-1 rifle, .45 caliber pistol and a Shmizer (phonetic) machine gun. HEMMING said the boat, which provided their transportation to Cuba, anchored some twenty or thirty miles off the coast of Cuba while HEMMING and his group were ashore.

When HEMMING and the group wanted to return to the boat, it was necessary for them to hijack a Cuban fishing boat and hold the occupants of the fishing boat as hostages until they arrived at their boat, anchored off shore. One of the hostages was a bank president, who was accompanied by his fourteen-year-old son.

HEMMING indicated that the boat used for this mission is now docked somewhere in the Miami River but he did not furnish the identity or location. On August 29, 1961 Lee Rutherford, United Press International employee, Miami, Florida, advised that he had recently talked to HEMMING who said that he had been to Cuba clandestinely on a boat with eleven men. He said they had visited each province of Cuba, and that four Cubans went ashore. According to HEMMING, these four Cubans had been trained with the Cuban invasion army in Guatemala in early 1961. RUTHERFORD said that although HEMMING admitted to him that he had clandestinely gone to Cuba, he did not clearly indicate the purpose of this mission other than that they had contacted the underground in Cuba.

On **August 29 1961**, JOSE M. GONZALEZ HERNANDEZ advised that HEMMING prior to his recent trip to Cuba had contacted GONZALEZ requesting a bazooka. GONZALEZ explained that he was unable to obtain such an article of war.

On or about **August 23, 1961**, Hemming went to GONZALEZ' store and said that he had gone to Cuba a clandestine mission, that he was with about eight others, and they had contacted the underground in Cuba. HEMMING said the underground claimed they have arms, but need a leader, and were prepared to overthrow the Cuban Government. HEMMING indicated that they used a small rowboat-type boat to row out to a motor launch and then the motor launch took them to the boat used for traveling to Cuba. HEMMING did not further identify the boats used. GONZALEZ requested that HEMMING make a report on this trip, and HEMMING immediately sat down at a typewriter and in front of GONZALEZ, typed the following report:

A recognizance and agent infiltration mission was executed the night of the 17th of Aug. '61. All personnel except one were Cubans. Transport was affected via use of a small fishing craft. Disembarkation was made at Cayo Guillermo near Caibarien, Cuba. The only surface craft encountered while entering the Cuban coast were commercial ships including one Russian transport encountered near Cayo Prances. There exists the possibility that the Soviet craft in the area are using their respective ships radar to detect clandestine surface craft infiltrating the Cuban coast.

The patrol craft utilized by the militia in the Camaguey-Las Villas zones are small fishing craft (less than 30 ft., less than 6 knots) on loan from the local cooperatives with normally less than 15 militiamen on board. The following information was procured:

1. The heavy artillery presently located at Punta Alegre is being dismounted for transfer to another local. The Local fisherman reported that last week (13-19 Aug.) the artillery opened fire on a presumed clandestine surface craft cruising off shore near the Cayos.
2. Contacts were made with the underground in the area and it was found that there are large numbers of militia and others that are willing to participate in anti-Castro activities and have arms and equipment procured from local sources and are only awaiting coordination and leaders to direct their activities.
3. The islands in and around Cayo Guillermo Cayo Frances were searched by a large number of militia 5 days prior to this recon mission. This patrol activity was stimulated by a report that counterrevolutionaries had a base of operations and arms caches on Cayo Frances. A militia camp containing 35 militiamen is located on the southeast end of Cayo Guillermo, but they conduct no patrols at present.
4. The Rebel Air Force has no aircraft patrolling the north coast of either province. The only aircraft observed were commercial passenger aircraft at odd intervals flying at high altitudes.
5. Indigenous personnel in the area are indifferent to both anti- and pro-Castro activities and though there is much discontent with the Castro regime they are lacking information (propaganda) and guidance as to the anti-Communist side of the situation.
6. The situation was compromised due to the fact that the agents could not be transferred to their pick-up point and the boat lasted for the exfiltration was not in the area. Three fishing craft had to be commandeered and hostages were utilized until transfer was made to the initial craft an the high seas.
7. Plans were made with the local underground for future contacts and operations that are due to begin immediately."

"END"

GONZALEZ said that the original of this report was given to a Cuban, who reportedly made it available to the Office of Naval Intelligence, Miami, on August 28 last. On **August 30, 1961**, Lieutenant Commander JAMES SPRAGUE, Office of Naval Intelligence, Miami, advised that his office had

received the original of the above report on August 28, 1961, but that the source of the report was unknown to that office. On September 1, 1961, MM T-1 advised that MENOYO was planning another mission to Cuba in which HEMMING and the same people would participate.

MM T-1 said that HEMMING is staying at the Blue Lay Motel, Miami Beach, where MENOYO lives and has his headquarters.

[FBI HQ 2-1693-39 many page w/h]

The others were titled "Nicaraguan Revolutionary Activities, Los Angeles, October 9, 1961, 105-4223 (Field) 109-12-222 (Bureau); 30th of November Movement October 11, 1961 and October 14, 1961, Miami, Florida, File MM 97-406; Unstable Dynamite Located in Downtown Miami, October 11, 1961, File 157-0; Eloy Gutierrez Menoyo October 17, 1961, Miami, Florida, File No. 105-2102 (Field) 105-82298 (Bureau) and INTERPEN October 27, 1961, Miami, Florida, File No. 2-312 (Field) 2-1693 (Bureau)." On October 19, 1961, the FBI contacted HEMMING

...concerning the nature of his trip to Cuba and he denied he had made any trip to Cuba in August 1961. He also denied that he had typed a report concerning this trip or that he had told anyone he made such a trip. He said that sometime during the middle of August 1961, he went fishing about 30 miles southwest of Andros Island in the Bahamas with eight or nine Cubans. He said he could not recall the name of the boat which they had used, but said they were gone about 11 days, but all they did was fish. [FBI 105-86406-18]

In a Freedom of Information Request to the Office of Naval Intelligence HEMMING asked for:

Memoranda, to and from FBI and ONI, in reference to my filing written, unsigned intelligence reports to ONI, through intermediaries, said reports including, but not limited to:

(A) A report referencing maritime infiltration operations against Communist Cuba, during 1961.

(B) Specifically, the report, forwarded to ONI, during August 1961, which reports details of my participation in a trip to the North Coast of Cuba, on a mission to insert four Cuban CIA Agents, who were on a classified mission.

The FBI reported:

On **October 20, 1961**, ANTONIO PEREZ QUESADA, 224 S.W. 4th Avenue, Miami, Florida, was interviewed and advised that he was the

owner and captain of a fishing sloop named "Blanca Estella". He said that on August 12, 1961, he departed Miami in his boat along with nine other individuals, including GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, and proceeded out to the open sea. He said his boat arrived at about midnight, August 17, 1961, at Cayo Guillermo or the north coast of Cuba, where eight men went shore and were unsuccessful in an attempt to contact members of the Cuban underground. These eight individuals remained at Cayo Guillermo for almost two days during which time they had no activity and after which they all decided to return to Miami. PEREZ related that in the process of departing from Cayo Guillermo, none Cabana were held as hostages temporarily but were later released and no violence was involved. He said that the "Blanca Estella" returned to Miami about August 24, 1961.

On November 2, 1961, the FBI Director generated a letter about HEMMING. [FBI 105-86406] The FBI:

On **November 17, 1961**, MM T-I advised that a group of Cubans and Americans were leaving Miami on that date to participate in a week-end of training at a site about fifty miles west of Miami in the Florida Everglades. A camp was to be set up at this location for week-end training and eleven Cubans and six Americans were to participate including GERALD PATRICK HEMMING. The training was to be sponsored by the 30th of November Revolutionary Movement, an anti-CASTRO organization with headquarters in Miami.

On **December 6, 1961**, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING and his associates were no longer connected with the 30th of November Revolutionary Movement because they had been in contact with ROLANDO MASFERRER. MM T-1 said that HEMMING claimed to be working with the MASFERRER group and also claimed that this group was to receive assistance from the United States Government. ROLANDO MASFERRER was a Senator in the Cuban Government during the regime of FULGENCIO BATISTA.

#### HEMMING'S CIA EMPLOYMENT FORM: JANUARY 1962

A CIA Official Routing Slip was generated in **January 1962**. On **January 26, 1962**, HEMMING filed out a Personal History Statement for the CIA. HEMMING had applied for CIA employment as a Intelligence Operative (collection or preliminary analysis; Military Instructor). He listed High School and College level G.E.D. equivalency tests and stated that he was

Mentor, Cuban Rebel Army & Anti-Communist activities in Cuba & the U.S.A...Guerilla warfare instructor due to experience in Cuts, USMC and past training in airborne operation, Special Forces Activities, arms, explosives and demolitions. Limited experience in intelligence gathering.

INCLUSIVE DATES: February 1959 to June 1960 San Julian Air Force Base, Piner Del Rio, Cuba, Adjutant-Pilot-Instructor...Adjutants duties, instruction of local militia units, patrolling by aircraft, foot and motor vehicle in desert area of Piner Del Rio Province. Involved in numerous anti-Castro conspiracies, arrested by Cuban intelligence agency (G-2). April 1954 to October 1958 USMC MCAS El Toro, Santa Ana, California, U.S.A. Military. Approach Controller. Maintain safe separation of aircraft flying under instrument conditions while A/C are making a navigational approach to the airport. Maintain the proficiency of junior controlling personnel through continuous instruction on the job. Transferred to AC "C" GCA Radar Operator School as NAS, Olathe, Kansas. November 1955 to April 1956, GCA Unit 40M, El Toro, Final Controller. Directing aircraft that are flying under instrument and or adverse weather conditions to a safe landing at an airport through the use of medium range search and precision radar. August 1956 to April 1956. MCAS Kanehoe Bay, (?) H. Military SGT. Link instructor. Instructions of pilots on flying procedures utilizing operational flight trainers and Simulators. Instructing on tower, GCA, GCI, refueling airborne, bombing (Special Weapons LABS & LOFT and all emergency procedures and techniques). Transferred to Naval Academy Prep School, NTC Bainbridge, Maryland. December 1952 to December 1953 Checker at supermarket. Left for short vacation in desert prior to enlisting in the Marines. August 1952 to February 1953. Rebuilding electric meters. Reason for Leaving: Enlistment, USMC (underage - refused). June 1960 to January 1962. Unemployed. Havana Cuba (till August 1960) Los Angeles California (till March 1961) Miami Florida. After separation Cuban Rebel Air Force (June 1960) was involved with Nicaraguan Rebels. Departed Cuba August 1960 for Mexico, then to Los Angeles. Maintained contact with CIA until departure to Miami in March 1961. Worked with numerous anti-Castro groups in Miami. Formed group of instructors known as INTERPEN, worked close with Triple A, 20 de Mayo, II Frente Escambray, 30th of November Movement. I received an honorable discharge from the U.S. Marine Corps October 17, 1958. I was forced to separate from the Cuban Rebel Air Force due to the fact I was becoming involved with various anti-Communist elements and my position was becoming dangerous. DIPAR (Cuban Armed Forces Investigation Department) issued a shoot on sight order during March 1960. The DIPAR order was suspended seven weeks after issue. The Cuban Secret Police (G-2) arrested me on July 15, 1960. After being released was subject to strict surveillance thereafter.

HEMMING used David Hirt, Sanchez Arrango, FBI S.A. John J. O'Conner and Howard K. Davis as references. STURGIS was asked if he knew S.A. James O'Conner during his deposition in *HUNT v. WEBERMAN*: "Well, him, his name registers. I believe - I'm not sure - he was one of the two agents pertaining to the Bay of Pigs Invasion." HEMMING listed membership in Junta Revolucionario de Liberation National, Second National Front of Escambray, Triple A, 30th of November Movement, the 20th of May

Movement, INTERPEN, The Beachhead Brigade for Cuban Freedom, the Sandinistas, and the International Anti-Communist Brigade. HEMMING stated the foreign intelligence organizations he had contact with were Cuban G-2, DIFAR, DIER, Confidential Section of the National Police, Counter-Espionage Section. HEMMING added:

In 1958 I graduated from the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School, but I chose to leave the service and infiltrate in the Cuban revolution. For quite some time I have had intelligence work, or enlisting in the U.S. Special Forces, as my goal in the future. I consider my past activities since 1958 as slightly irregular, free-lance appearing, but a very valuable chance at obtaining first hand experience into my chosen career." HEMMING listed these references: "Hasia-Pacific, Inc. Art Simpson, (Pres.) 1329 S. Figueros Street, Los Angeles 15, California; Spiegel Inc. 1061 W. 35th Street Chicago, 6, Illinois; Klein's 227 West Washington Street, Chicago, 6, Illinois.

HEMMING told the FBI that in about the middle of January 1962, he left Miami and went to Los Angeles, California, where he contacted a number of American businessmen who were interested in the present Cuban situation. In **February 1962**

MEMORADUM FOR: Chief, Support Branch

FROM: Deputy Chief, Operational Support Div.

SUBJECT: HEMMING, P.

1. On **February 1, 1962** (deleted) Executive Officer, Contacts Division, Office of Operations, advised the undersigned that he had recently been in contact with the Los Angeles office his Division relative to the above individual.
2. According to (deleted), on the basis of an anonymous tip, the Los Angeles County Sheriff's office recovered a 45-caliber U.S. pistol, serial number 1504981-SA from a car in the Los Angeles. Subsequent to its recovery by the Sheriff's office the Subject [HEMMING] claimed the pistol indicating he was a CIA Agent who was on a training mission in connection with an assignment aimed at Cuba.
3. The Sheriff's office contacted the OO/C Los Angeles office who, in turn, requested the Sheriff's Office attempt to keep the matter out of the newspapers and that they would attempt to trace the identity of the individual. The local CID office of the U.S. Army also became interested in the matter; however, they were also requested to suspend any active investigation of the matter.

6. I also advised Joe Langam (deleted) WH Division who advised that the Subject is not of interest to Project JMATE nor has he ever been in the past, however forwarded to the undersigned the attached synopsis of information maintained by WH Division concerning Subject.

7. It is requested that you contact the SAC, LAFO to advise him of this matter and to request that he interview the Subject for purposes of determining the Subject's alleged status and what remarks were actually made to the LA Sheriff's office. Consideration should be given to the fact that this matter may well evolve into a case of stolen government property and / or impersonation. It may be well to suggest to the SAC, LAFO that intial contact be made with his counterpart at the OO/C LA Field Office to insure that the information received here at Headquarters was entirely accurate. Further consideration after the conclusion of the interview with the Subject should be given to possible dissemination of the results of the interview to the FBI in the event it would appear to be a matter in which they would be concerned. I suggest we call SAC LAFO in approaching the Subject because of his reputation and his obvious interest in para-military matters as well as the fact that he possesses firearms.

Stanton F. Ense.

Jerry Mollani, SO/TF/W stated on February 5, 1962, that no record of instant pistol was available in records. [CIA 19774 2.2.62; CIA FOIA 00023] In February 1962 a notation was made on this routing slip which was withheld as of 2010. The FBI reported

**On March 30, 1962**, HEMMING was interviewed and advised that he continued participating in Cuban revolutionary activities. He said he was not conducting any training at that time but that he still considered himself available to train Cuban exiles for some future military action in Cuba. He said that in about mid-January 1962, he went from Miami to Los Angeles, California, where he contacted a number of American businessmen interested in the Cuban situation. He said he had unsuccessfully attempted to convince these men to make financial contributions to be used by the Cuban exiles for a future action against the CASTRO Government or Cuba. He said that in mid-February 1962, he traveled to Mobile, Alabama, where he visited a friend named DAMON NAPIER. While in Mobile, he was arrested and jailed by the police there on a charge of impersonation and was held for one week. HEMMING said he had previously met NAPIER in Miami and that when he visited NAPIER in Mobile, it appeared to him that NAPIER was then involved with stolen automobiles and checks. HEMMING said following his week in Jail, he was released by the Mobile Police Department,

HEMMING told this researcher:

**"In February and March 1962** I was in the East Wing of the White House meeting with the Kennedy people. We never had any problems from them until 1963." The FBI: "On March 26, 1962, MM T-1, an individual who has been active in revolutionary activity in the Miami area for the past 4 years advised that five men from the 30th of November Movement went into the Everglades west of Miami on the previous weekend where they practiced shooting M-1 Carbines. An American adventurer named GERRY HEMMING accompanied this group. On April 3, 1962 (Deleted) advised he understood that the 30th of November Movement was planning to send from 25 to 30 men to a training camp over the coming weekend. MM T-1 said that other organizations were also planning to set up their own individual camps, and athat a base camp would be established to handle communications between the individual camps." [FBI 2-1693-55]

The FBI in Miami interviewed HEMMING at his home on **April 9, 1962**. He claimed his fund raising trip to Los Angeles in January 1962 had been a failure and that he no longer conducted paramilitary training. The FBI checked with its sources in the Cuban exile community and was told INTERPEN no longer existed, although HEMMING "continues to visit different Cuban revolutionary organizations, is tolerated by these organizations and continues to work for the establishment of some sort of a military training camp where he would train Cuban nationals for guerilla warfare in Cuba; however, HEMMING has no money for backing and no chance of establishing such a training camp." [FBI 2-312 (field) 2-1963 (Bureau)] On April 11, 1962, the CIA reported "As you know we have an extensive series of FBI reports on the activities of GERALD PATRICK HEMMING and his INTERPEN. If HEMSING is HEMMING this info should go in his file. Can we assume writer did send this to the FBI?" [CIA FOIA 00611 NARA 1993.07.01.16:11:11:620340] On that day the CIA generated a Routing and Record Sheet that went to Charles Mott and TFW/CI which was largely illegible. One line read: "Any interest in contract agent?" [NARA 1993.07.01.16:13:51:310340] The Los Angeles Field Office of the FBI reported "On April 25, 1962, Burt Levy contacted the Los Angeles Office by telephone and furnished information concerning contacts by the Subject in the past." Levy had written a guerilla warfare manual and HEMMING corresponded with him. Levy turned over the correspondence to the FBI:

Dear Bert: April 10, 1962. The answer to your second question is that we of the Interpen are not supported by any U.S. Gov't agency whatsoever. We are getting very little aid from limited sources. Our boys are easting refugee food and what bread that is donated to us. We are constantly banging heads with the CIA, FBI, etc. The authorities frown on our activities and are continually attempting to break up our camps. We are not amateurs at the game of hid-and-seek so they don't have much luck. We are very far back in the Everglades, in places where even the Seminole Indians don't go. We have trained over 400 Cuban volunteers in the past year. Let me know how your contact with

Col. Mills turns out. Yours, (signed) Gerry. [FBI 105-86406-7] On April 30, 1962, the FBI created a report titled, "Larry La Borde, HEMMING, Edward Collins, Antonio Cuesta. Internal Security, Cuba"

On April 3, 1962, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING's organization, Interpen, was not active, had no members, and that HEMMING was not a member of any Cuban revolutionary organization although he was continuing to visit certain of these organizations relative to the establishment of a military training camp where he could train Cuban exiles for guerrilla warfare.

#### ANTONIO CUESTA

On April 8, 1963, Antonio Cuesta Del Valle advised that FBI that he is

the leader of the Commandos L and was previously a member of Alpha-66. The latter organization was under the leadership of Antonio Veciana Blanch. Cuesta stated the Veciana abandoned Alpha-66 and joined The Second National Front of Escambray organization in the fall of 1962. Veciana took with him the name Alpha-66 so the original Alpha-66 organization changed its name to Commandoes L, which is the same organization that conducted raids against Cuba in 1962. Cuesta advised that on March 17, 1963, and on March 18, 1963, Commandoes L departed Miami in two boats, a 50-foot cabin cruiser, *Alisan*, and a 23-foot speedboat. These boats rendezvoused near Cat Cay...An attack against a Russian ship was made under cover of darkness during the early morning hours of March 27, 1963, by the 23-foot speedboat, containing Cuesta, Ramon Font, Alfredo Mir, Angel Puxes, Mario Alvarez and Antonio Perez. The raiders attacked a large Russian freighter in Caibarien Harbor, Cuba, firing a 20-millimeter cannon and other weapons, and then the raiders set off a homemade bomb, which was suspended beneath the surface of the water and against the hull of the Russian vessel. [NARA SSCIA 157-10003-10486]

On May 29, 1966, Antonio De La Cuesta was captured by the Cuban Navy after an aborted infiltration mission. Cuesta was seriously wounded. [Granma 6.5.66] Cuesta stated: "We were thrown into the water after a terrible explosion and were picked up by the same boats that attacked us. They rescued us when we were badly wounded. And that is how we were rescued rather than arrested." The Miami Chapter of the Cuban Revolutionary Council reported the Council had met HEMMING "and following the U.S. Government's policy of not accepting Americans into their organization, they maintained no contact with HEMMING." On April 30, 1962, the CIA sent a communication to the FBI about HEMMING:

On April 24, 1962, MM-T1 who has furnished reliable information in the past, reported the following data: LARRY J. LA BORDE, an American in

Miami who is a sailor by occupation, claimed he contacted MAX (LNU), a CIA agent in Key West, Florida, on April 22, 1962, and advised him that the ship "SS WILLIAMS," operating out of Miami, Florida, was running machinery to Cuba. LA BORDE requested permission to blow up this ship on its return to Miami. According to LA BORDE, MAX gave him permission, and indicated LA BORDE would receive five thousand dollars for the job, when completed. LA BORDE is associated with ANTONIO CUESTA, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, and EDWARD COLLINS in the plan to blow up the ship. CUESTA is a Cuban national who has previously participated in CIA operations against the present government of Cuba. HEMMING and COLLINS are American citizens, mercenaries and revolutionists, who are not members of any Cuban revolutionary organization, but are in constant contact with most Cuban anti-CASTRO organizations in Miami. MM-T1 states that LA BORDE claims to know the location of CIA warehouse in Key West Florida where arms are stored, and LA BORDE plane to burglarize this warehouse later. Informant advised that on 1962, LA BORDE, HEMMING and COLLINS went Key West , and on their return, claimed to have seen the CIA warehouse and said it was full of all types of arms and ammunition, has only one night watchman, and they think they could burglarize it without difficulty. However, they plan to wait until after they blow up the ship.

The informant advised that on April 24, 1962, CUESTA visited the Pier 3 area of the Miami Municipal Docks to familiarize himself with the area and devise a plan. CUESTA has decided to use an aqualung to attach explosives to the ship. He claims to be an experienced diver.

Informant said that LA BORDE previously worked on a subchaser owned by ALBERTO FERNANDEZ which was of operational interest to CIA, but has had no action in the recent past. LA BORDE claimed that MAX might overlook LA BORDE's burglarization of the CIA warehouse containing arms, if the destruction of the ship were successful.

the anti-CASTRO cause by DIXIE WYNN, of the supermarket chain. LA BORDE was not certain that this yacht would be donated, but hoped that it would be. The informant said that LA BORDE recently bought a 1949 dark green Buick automobile for \$160.00 and said that he would drive the automobile to New Orleans.

On April 24, 1962, Mr. GREG MARUCA, CIA Miami, was advised of the above information. MARUCA said that LA BORDE was of operational interest to CIA, but that he was dropped a couple of months ago. MAX (LNU), mentioned above, according to MARUCA is, in fact, a CIA agent in Key West, Florida and was contacted by LA BORDE. Contrary to the claim of LA BORDE, MAX tried to dissuade LA BORDE from an attempt to blow up the "SS WILLIAMS." MAX did not give LA BORDE permission to proceed, and CIA has not authorized this operation.

MARUCA said that LA BORDE had participated in CIA operations out of Key West, Florida, and knows the location of a warehouse containing arms. MARUCA considers him as being unpredictable and capable of blowing up a ship. MARUCA said LA BORDE was given money and a ticket to leave the Florida area and go to New Orleans, but had not done so. MARUCA said that if LA BORDE were arrested and brought to trial for attempting to blow up the ship, he would probably expose CIA operations, which CIA did not want. MARUCA asked if the FBI could "pick up" LA BORDE and convince him not to go on with his plan concerning the ship. MARUCA was advised that inasmuch as there was no federal violation within the Bureau's jurisdiction, the FBI did not plan to interview LA BORDE, and in view of the possibility of loss of property and lives local authorities should be notified of LA BORDE's plan.

Prior investigation concerning another matter reflected that the SS Williams is owned by TEOFILIO BABOUN, a Cuban millionaire residing in Miami who is anti-Communist and anti-Fidel. The ship is presently a time charter to Inter Island Shipping Company, of which VICENTE RODRIGUEZ is President and Manager. The ship left Miami on April 19, 1962 bound for Phillipsborough, St. Marti Netherlands West Indies, and it is expected to be back in Miami on approximately May 2, 1962. The ship was described as being 750 tons, 167 feet long, and Panamanian registry.

On April 25, 1962. MARUCA said that LA Borde then in Key West, Florida, owed the Blue Lagoon nine hundred dollars on his bill, and the owner was going to sign a complaint and obtain a warrant for LA BORDE's arrest. MARUCA also advised that CIA were advising the local police authorities and the Coast Guard of LA BORDE's plans.

On April 30, 1962, MM-T1 advised that CUESTA has three aqualungs and planned to teach HEMMING and COLLINS how to use this underwater diving equipment. HEMMING on April 27, 1962, talked to ALBERTO FERNANDEZ, who said that LA BORDE was in Key West, and HEMMING should discontinue his association with LA BORDE, because of his being irresponsible. HEMMING said that he, COLLINS and CUESTA were practicing with the aqualungs in the ocean at Key Biscayne, Miami, Florida, on April 27, 1962, when CUESTA said that they were being watched by a CIA agent whom CUESTA had previously known.

Informant advised that HEMMING has a friend who is a ship surveyor, who was able to ascertain that the "SS WILLIAMS" would be back to Miami, Florida on about May 11, 1962.

The informant stated that CUESTA claims that during the time he was working for CIA, ALBERTO FERNANDEZ received a certain quantity of

money from CIA, to be used to buy food for the group operating a boat belonging to FERNANDEZ. However, FERNANDEZ kept the money.

Inasmuch as this matter concerning the blowing up of the "SS WILLIAMS" is not within the jurisdiction of the Bureau, and LA BORDE and CUESTA have previously been of operational interest to CIA, and there is apparently ill feeling between LA BORDE, CUESTA and CIA, the Miami Office anticipates no active investigation in this matter.

The Miami Office will follow this matter through contact with MM T-1 and liaison with CIA, and keep the Bureau advised.

Cuesto was eventually blinded in Commando raid against Cuba. [Miami Herald 9.5.81] An **April 11, 1962**, Routing and Record Sheet, from 1905 Quarters Eye read, "To 1: Any interest in OO contact? (deleted). This is not in my area of (?). If you have any..." An **April 28, 1962**, Routing and Record Sheet indicated that documents about HEMMING were sent to 1.B. Bond 2. (Illegible) 3. (Illegible) 4. (Illegible) 5. Barton Hull 6. Project W/ Quarters Eye POD Placement: "Applicant File Section Please refer this file to the Cuba desk. '5-6 Looks like a candidate for your activities (deleted) 6 to 8 & 9 No requirements at time Armstrong." [NARA 1993:07.01.16:16:36:750340]

In **May 1962** the FBI determined that INTERPEN had ceased to exist and that HEMMING was "considered untrustworthy and completely unreliable by American mercenaries and Cuban revolutionists in Miami." [FBI 2-1693-56 5.16.62 pages 2-3 w/h]

*The New Orleans States-Item* ran this story on **May 21, 1962**:

#### NEW ORLEANS AND THE AMERICAS

#### GUERRILLAS AIDED BY LOCAL CUBANS

By WILLIAM STUCKEY

A small group of local Cubans have been sending guns and general military supplies to guerrillas and saboteurs in Cuba for the past three months.

A member of the group, who wanted to remain anonymous, said the weapons and supply items are first sent to secret military camps in the Florida Everglades. From there the weapons are smuggled into Cuba to equip the anti-Castro underground, or are used by Florida based raiders in lightning sabotage strikes on the Cuban coast, the informant said.

The latest shipment of arms left over the weekend on a boat manned by American soldiers-of-fortune and ex-Marines. The boat was docked at a secret site in the New Orleans area during the loading operation.

The informant insisted that his group is an informal organization and has nothing to do with the Miami based Cuban Revolutionary Council, headed by Jose Miro Cardona. "A lot of us got tired of those who speak in pretty phrases and who have political ambitions in Cuba" he said. "We are tired of wasting time. We looked for men of action and we found them."

The indications are that the local Cubans are affiliated, or are attempting to affiliate with the Revolutionary Student Directorate...The informant said that most of the guns and supplies shipped from here were donated by U.S. citizens in New Orleans or cities in other states.

William Stuckey told the Warren Commission: "Most of the organizations I had contact with...were violently anti-Castro groups, and there were a number of them in New Orleans. These people were news sources for me also. I used them quite frequently." Was Stuckey's source for this story one of the American soldiers-of-fortune and ex-Marines who were involved in this activity? Was his source Larry La Borde, FRANK STURGIS or GERRY HEMMING?

#### HEMMING JUNE 1962

On June 18, 1962, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING had recently purchased a quantity of skin-diving equipment from Water World on Biscayne Boulevard in Miami. MM T-1 said that HEMMING paid slightly over \$1000.00 for the equipment involved. The CIA reported that HEMMING contacted it in June 1962, "but no action was taken because his activities were primarily of FBI interest." [CIA Memo to John Warner DEA 6.4.76] On June 12, 1962, the Los Angeles Field Office of the FBI generated a document on HEMMING. On June 11, 1962, PB\ Keefe concluded:

1. Corres.
2. AFS Inactive Tell him we have completed a review of his application and have no suitable position. 5B1 [*Allen v DOD CIA 01226*]

A Transmittal Slip stated: "The attached FBI (illegible) GERALD PATRICK HEMMING were forwarded by (Deleted) re: possible employment. From Administrative Staff." On June 21, 1962 HEMMING was sent a letter by Director of Personnel of the CIA, E.O. Erhotz that informed him no suitable position had been found.

The CIA reported, "In January 1962 Mr. Hemming submitted an application for employment to the Agency. The Office of Personnel checked with several components of the Directorate of Operations which expressed no interest in his services.

## HEMMING, KOHLY AND ROBERT MORROW

From 1960 to 1963 Robert D. Morrow, a former CIA Technical Services Division technician, and Mario Garcia Kohly, ran an operation in Baltimore to counterfeit Cuban pesos which were dumped on the Cuban economy in order to disrupt it. Mario Kohly, of the Christian Democratic Movement, was an associate of NIXON and was a rival of Tony Varona in the Cuban Revolutionary Front. On July 27, 1962, an Official Routing Slip read:

TFW/PM (illegible initials) July 30, 1962, July 3, 1962 / TFW/PA-Prop (illegible initials) August 3, 1962 / C/TFW/CI (Deleted) (date deleted) TFW (illegible and deleted): Attached correspondence to the Director of the Central Intelligence Agency may be of interest to you. Unless you consider it necessary, we are not planning to reply to Subject's letter. Please inform undersigned if you desire to take any action on this matter. No record of Morrow, his organization, or Hemsing Report cards, however, Hemsing is undoubtedly identical with GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, the "noted" guerilla trainer. TFW/EXEC BARKLEY July 27, 1962

[NARA 1993.07.01.16:08:51:560340]

A recently released version of this Slip contained: "C/TFW/CI [a (deleted)]. William Harvey was the Chief of Task Force W. HEMMING 1994:

JAMES ANGLETON was responding to an inquiry by Bill Harvey. Morrow" was Robert Morrow, who wrote *Betrayed*. Robert Morrow was part of William Harvey's operation. It refers to Robert Morrow and Mario Garcia Kohly in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Robert Morrow wrote a letter to John McCone.

On August 8, 1962 Task Force W/Counter-Intelligence stated:

Morrow, who I think is slightly 'nuts' states twice in his letter that he has sent the same information to the FBI. Also the entire scope of this case is of primary interest to the FBI and not to us. Thus I think there should be no further action on this except to file it. If we answer Morrow we'll be bothered with more letters from him. I have placed a card on Morrow in our TFW/Support card file. (see thermo attached) Please file in 201-309125 GERALD PATRICK HEMMING.

On October 1, 1963, Robert Morrow and Mario Garcia Kohly were both arrested by the Federal Government. Both served a short time in jail for the counterfeiting operation. Morrow:

Kohly made himself unpopular with the Kennedy Administration by suggesting to the Attorney General that the missiles in fact had not been

removed from Cuba after October 1962 and that his underground sources in effect told him that the Cuban missile crisis had not had a favorable outcome to the United States. Kohly believed for these and other reasons the Kennedy Administration was unfavorable to his anti-Castro activity. Consequently, Kohly approached NIXON to intercede for him." NIXON wrote a letter the judge in Kohly's counterfeiting case telling him of the useful services Kohly had performed for the United States Government in the past. In 1971 Robert Morrow ran for the President of the Baltimore City Council as a Republican and in 1972 he became the Republican nominee for Congress. "Robert Morrow feels it is possible that the Christian Democratic Movement was associated with people who were in turn associated with OSWALD. If this is the case he thinks it is not inconceivable that the CIA case officers of the Christian Democratic Movement exiles may have had knowledge of some potentially dangerous anti-Kennedy activities. [SSCIA 157-10005-10284]

Morrow was associated with HEMMING, Kohly and NIXON however, in *Betrayed* (later titled *First Hand Knowledge*) Robert Morrow claimed he worked with David Ferrie and Cuban exile Eladio Del Valle. He claimed to have delivered two Mannlicher-Carcano rifles to David Ferrie prior to the assassination. This researcher has been unable link David Ferrie to Eladio Del Valle. Nor could this researcher link David Ferrie directly to the assassination of John Kennedy. HEMMING told this researcher:

That's a totally separate deal. He didn't know what was going on. That's a long story in itself. Kohly wanted to do a hit on Fidel in the Winter of 1961. Morrow was one of these compartmentalized, isolated assholes, that had a need to know zip. He knew a little bit about a few things and he's adding up two and two and it's coming up nine. It pissed me off when the book came out. Some of the things in there are the truth, but he wasn't privy to most of the sensitive shit. He imagined a bunch of shit.

LAWRENCE LA BORDE



In May 1962 HEMMING and INTERPEN members HARGRAVES, Loran Hall and former CIA maritime employee Lawrence La Borde (born August 27, 1909) were traveling back and forth between Miami and New Orleans. [HSCA Seq. Doc. 00037] Lawrence La Borde was a Port Captain in New Orleans who was formerly employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Mexico in 1947 to 1949 as a small boat operator, but was fired for misconduct. The charges included excessive use of intoxicants, unauthorized use of firearms and failure to support dependent children. Lawrence La Borde had been an asset of Project JMATE from March 17, 1961 to April 24, 1962, where he worked in Task Force W under William Harvey. [Harvey to ID/3 Tobiassen 4.24.62] HEMMING told this researcher:

He worked for an extension of ZR RIFLE. Ethnic cleansing of the new government after the Bay of Pigs. Larry La Borde was part of this. He put guys inside Cuba for live practice runs.

Lawrence La Borde was Captain of the *Tejana III*, which was used in CIA operations until 1962. The *Tejana III* was owned by Alberto Fernandez Hechavarria, a former wealthy Cuban engaged in the sugar industry. Alberto Fernandez Hechavarria was a Princeton graduate and had attended Prep School with John Kennedy. On March 20, 1961, H. K. Clayton, the Chief of the Investigations Branch of the CIA generated a memo for the Chief, Security Support Division on "La Borde, Lawrence J. #2415898 PCSA IB/3.

1. WH/4 has requested a Provisional Operational Approval in the name of the Subject on an expedite basis to permit his utilization under PROJECT JMATE." Clayton asked for an FBI check on La Borde.

**September 29, 1961**  
MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, WH/4/Security

SUBJECT: Crew Member, *Tejana*, Lawrence La Borte.

1. On September 29, 1961 Mr. Charles V. Piotti was debriefed upon his return from TDY at the TIDE area and his subsequent return to the Office of Logistics. Mr. Piotti advised of the following incident that occurred during his travel from TIDE to Washington while in Key West.
2. The chief engineer of the motor vessel *Tejana*, first name Larry (LNU), happened to meet Piotti at a small restaurant at lunch time when Piotti was in Key West. Larry recognized Piotti and proceeded to tell him that he, Larry, knew where Piotti had been and what he had been doing. He further went on to state in an indiscreet manner that he knew where all of 'you' people were at all times. Mr. Piotti did not pursue the situation further and attempted to exit gracefully. He stated that this is not the first time that Larry has been indiscrete in his discussion of Project activities. From previous contact with Larry, Mr. Piotti has observed him to be addicted to alcohol, or unsavory reputation and indiscrete in his conversation however this individual is the only engineer aboard the *Tejana* that can operate the vessel. In difficulties with the operation of the *Tejana* due primarily of Larry's being an American citizen, Larry has stated in effect that he does not care who gives orders. He will go on operations if he so desires. At various times he has further berated the Agency.
3. This matter is brought to your attention for possible action on your part.

[CIA Memo for Chief/WH/4/Security from Donald Connors]

#### LA BORDE BECOMES a CIA RENEGADE

CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

DATE: April 24, 1962

TO: DIRECTOR

FROM: JMWAVE

ACTION: C/TFW 3 (TEMPO COPY SLOTTED C/TFW

INFO: DOP, S/C 2 CITE WAVE 3023

1. On April 24, 1962, ODENVY Rep contacted KUSODA WAVE. Advised that ODENVY had received info that Lawrence La Borte reportedly received instructions from a "Max A. Kubarker" to blow up vessel S.S. *William* owned by one Babun and of Panamanian Registry when it docks at pier three Miami next two or three days. Further La Borte and unidentified group considering raiding a warehouse owned by KUBARK at Key West, containing various arms and equipment protected by only one guard

2. Check with COB BARR revealed that La Borde contacted him on April 22, 1962, and advised that La Borde considering destruction of a ship, name not furnished, that would dock at pier three next few days. La Borde indicated ship carrying material not in best interests of PBPRIME COB BARR attempted to dissuade and urged La Borde return home in Louisiana.

3. Check with all local ODIBEX Rep Negative.

4. ODENVY advised that La Borde had been member of group we had supported, but was not directly employed by KUBARK. Upon termination of the activity of which La Borde was a member, La Borde was let go on March 12, 1962. He is of no interest to us nor are we responsible for his actions. La Borde had signed a secrecy agreement and was knowledgeable our installations Key West area, therefore we have security interest in his not revealing this aspect of his activities. La Borde has reputation of being completely unpredictable and not easily controlled. There is some opinion he is capable of attempting alleged course of action.

5. Station attempting learn La Borde's whereabouts and if successful will notify ODENVY. If ODENVY contacts La Borde will attempt to obtain results of their interview.

6. COB BARR alerted to increase guard coverage on warehouse.

C/S COMMENT: Dissemination applicable to RYBAT GYROSE YOBITE CABLES.

April 24, 1962

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director of Security (Investigations & Operational Support)

ATTENTION: ID/3, Mr. Tobiassen

SUBJECT: LARRY LA BORDE

1. Reference is made to the memorandum dated March 17, 1961, which requested a POA for the Subject's use as a maritime asset of Project JMATE and to the POA issued on March 24, 1961.

2. The Subject is no longer of any interest to Task Force W and all clearance action may be canceled.

(Deleted) William K. Harvey, Chief, Task Force W.

On **May 2, 1962**, this CIA cable was sent:

Origin: Pmiller;dad  
From: Director  
Conf. C/TFW 3 \*\*  
Info: DDP, S/C 2  
REF: WAVE 3023 (IN 24722)\*

1. Ref info received Headquarters May 1, 1962, states La Borde working with Antonio Questa, Cuban national, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING and Edward Collins, American mercenaries.
2. Further stated KUBARK rep Miami should apprise local authorities of La Borde's plan. Has this been done?

End of Message.

TFW Comment: Re La Borde's plan to blow up S. S. *William* and raid Kubark warehouse at Key West.

C/S comment: Dissemination applicable to (deleted) cables.  
Releasing Officer (signature deleted)  
William K. Harvey, Chief, Task Force W. (Deleted)

On **May 23, 1962**, "NO-T-1," an FBI informant connected to the Cuban Revolutionary Council, advised that Lawrence La Borde contacted three members of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in early May and told them he wanted to help move supplies to anti-Castro Cubans within Cuba. Lawrence La Borde said that he had been active in fighting Castro before the Bay of Pigs, and was currently running guns from the Florida Keys to Cuba with CIA assent.

#### DISPATCH

TO: Chief, Task Force W  
From: Chief of Station, JMWAVE  
SUBJECT: (Deleted) Operational Comment on Newspaper Article.

1. In reply to referenced request for information with regard to the newspaper article to be published in the *Denver Post* [by Robert K. Brown] on **June 3, 1963**, the following is provided.

A. The source of the information in this article is almost certainly Lawrence J. La Borde who was associated with the motor vessel M/V *Tejana* III, which has been utilized in KUBARK operations on and off since early 1961. La Borde has at various times been Acting Captain of the *Tejana*, but basically served as its Chief Engineer as a result of his experience with pancake diesel engines which comprised the power plant for the ship. The *Tejana* is probably identical to the '*Florida*' mentioned in the article on the basis that the size of the crew and the general crew replacements

generally conform to crew changes that were made on the *Tejana* at JMWAVE's instigation.

B. La Borde was formerly employed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Mexico in 1947 to 1949 as a small boat operator, but was fired for misconduct. The charges included excessive use of intoxicants, unauthorized use of firearms and failure to support dependent children. Charles J. Hostynski, Chief, JMBAR, was the Agricultural Department Personnel Officer who handled La Borde's out processing in 1949. Hostynski's first true name is identical with the name appearing in the article as KUBARK's head man in the BARR area.

C. In April 1962 when Larry La Borde was informed that his services on the *Tejana* were to be terminated, he became quite bitter towards those KUBARK officials with whom he previously had contact necessitated by the mounting of maritime operations in which the *Tejana* was utilized as the mother ship. La Borde evidenced prejudice toward Hostynski whom he knew to be responsible for his being fired in 1949 in Mexico. His conduct on being separated included the making of reckless threats which were recorded at the time in WAVE 3023.

E. As background for Headquarters in formulating answers to questions which may be forthcoming re Subject article, it should be pointed out throughout 1961 WAVE, of necessity, relied upon wealthy Cuban exiles to provide boats to be used on maritime operations in the absence of unilateral boats or the ability to acquire them. Numerous problems developed mainly in the realm of security. The La Borde/*Tejana* situation was the most difficult one of these arrangements to control mainly as a result of (1) La Borde's American citizenship, and (2) that fact that Larry La Borde's qualifications as a pancake diesel motor engineer made him literally indispensable if the *Tejana* was to be utilized. The problems mounting out of the program to utilize Cuban exile boats on a contract basis led to a policy decision to replace such boats with unilaterally controlled boats as soon as time would permit. The phasing out of Cuban exile boats quite naturally was interpreted by the boat crews and owners to represent a decrease in anti-Castro activity and possibly an end to such activity. The anger among the crews at this possibility quite naturally resulted in a number of protests which, with the exception of Larry La Borde, were taken care of by the appropriate reassurances which of necessity could not reveal KUBARK's policy of continuing the anti-Castro campaign with unilaterally controlled vessels.

F. La Borde was finally removed from the WAVE area with the assistance of AMDENIM-1 who sent him to New Orleans with ample termination funds only to have him show up in the area again and become involved with any KUBARK sponsored exile groups, who, under the leadership of

independent American soldiers-of-fortune who were regularly coming to the attention of the local press. La Borde was again assisted out of the area by AMDENIM-1 and has not been heard from for approximately a month prior to the arrival of the reference.

G. The PBPRIMER identified in the article as the KUBARK head of marine operations in the WAVE area is probably Bertrand R. Jobes, whose true first name is identical with the name in the article and who was associated with the Tejana in early 1961 when it was first picked up by KUBARK. Jobes reputation as maritime officer of course belies the derogatory statements made in the article.

2. In analyzing the possible immediate security ramifications of this matter on WAVE operations, it should be noted that the contract for Tejana was terminated in April 1962 and it is currently anchored in Miami under the owner's sole responsibility. None of the previous Tejana anchorages except the Mineral Carriers site are in present use and no operational boats are anchored there. The REEFER III is anchored close by this site and is being moved to a new location.

3. The above is a hasty effort to provide Headquarters with the basic information and can be further documented as required. It is believed that Headquarters' records contain a good bit of the information under varying subject files and operational reports. WAVE would like to suggest that in this instance the best approach may be to allow the material to die a natural death insofar as possible. Secondly, the preparation of a brief factual statement on the true nature of the source for giving to key officials and editors should serve to spike further publicity. It would seem that there is more than sufficient information available showing LaBorde to be a completely unethical ne'er-do-well to be able to so advise such persons as really have to know. The entire situation is of course extremely regrettable, but can be interpreted as a further example of the difficulties being encountered in endeavoring to mount an effective clandestine program against PBRUMEN from the WAVE area and throught the PBRUMEN exile community with all of its nationa characteristics which do not lend themselves to clandestine operations.

William Harvey was angry:

We would appreciate it receiving your views on what might possibly be done to make life difficult for La Borde. Any proposal you might have, including possible use of the AMOT will most certainly receive favorable consideration and will probably be approved. Our aim obviously would be to ensure that Larry La Borde does not continue to be a source of misinformation and to be a general nuisance to all of us. [CIA 201-294688 6.29.62]

The FBI reported:

MM T-1 who has been actively engaged in Cuban revolutionary activities **June 11, 1962**, for the past four years advised that Larry LaBorde called Miami Florida the previous evening and said he expected the 67 foot schooner "Elsie Reichart" to arrive in Miami on or about July 14, 1962. LaBorde advised the boat would have four Americans and three Cubans aboard as crewmen.

MM T-1 advised that the schooner "The Mariner" is still located at Fort Meyers, Florida, needs an anchor and other repairs. Both of these boats are reportedly being operated by their owners and crews without monetary remuneration from LaBorde.

Bill Seymour, an American citizen who had previously been trained as a mechanic while serving in the United s Navy has been residing in Miami is closely connected with GERALD PATRICK HEMMING an American soldier of Fortune who is closely associated with persons involved in Cuban revolutionary activities in the Miami, Florida area. Hemming, who is a close friend and associate of LaBorde, planned to send Seymour to St. Petersburg to work on the boat's engine.

Captain Jose Rodriguez Soso, a Cuban national residing in Miami and a member of the Directorio Revolucionario Estudiantil, a Cuban revolutionary organization, has been in close contact with LaBorde and plans on sending another Cuban from, Miami to join the "Elsie Reichart" which recently sprung a leak in the hull, and whose, engine is still inoperative.

On **June 21, 1962**, HEMMING received a letter from the CIA informing him that he would not be hired. HEMMING told this researcher:

That's bullshit. CIA never sent me a letter about being hired or recruited for a goddamn thing. They never sent me a fucking message. I had contact with Justin Gleichauf from OO twice. One time was the Bay of Pigs. They sold out two of my guys who Somoza wanted dead. After that nothing face-to-face, all by pay phone. Gleichauf was liaison with law enforcement.

HEMMING, RABEL, BARTES & THE REVOLUTIONARY COUNCIL  
LUIS RABEL

Luis Rabel Nunez, aka Luis Ravel, was the delegate of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans from 1960 to 1961. Luis Rabel was the son of a native born American citizen and had been raised in comfortable circumstances, on an experimental rice farm next to that of the father of Fidel Castro. He had known Fidel

when both were children. When interviewed in 1977, Luis Rabel said that he had resigned and moved to Venezuela in October 1962, since the Cuban Revolutionary Council had turned out to be a "complete fiasco." Luis Rabel said the names HEMMING or Lawrence La Borde did not ring any bells. When questioned in *HUNT v. WEBERMAN*, HUNT denied having known Luis Rabel. STURGIS's CIA 201 file contained an index cards that read, "FIORINI, Frank #284008 \*RABEL, Joseph Luis FBI Rpt. August 3, 1962 p.4 (copy in file 10/77)."

#### FRANK BARTES 1960 TO 1962

Francisco Antonio Bartes Clarens [CIA 201-289005 also CIA 201-289685], was the delegate of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in New Orleans from November 1962 to 1964. Frank Bartes succeeded Luis Rabel. Frank Bartes had been the president of a private railroad in pre-Castro Cuba. His firm, which employed thousands of workers and had assets of \$100 million, was nationalized by Castro in 1960. Bartes was mentioned in an FBI Report July 11, 1960. (DBF 52-700) When he came to the United States, he operated a New Orleans Washeteria from 1961 to 1963. On JANUARY 3, 1961 the CIA generated an Access Restricted on Bartes. On JANUARY 3, 1961 an Indices File request yielded one result.

DATE January 6, 1961

Memorandum For: Chief, Security Support Division

From: Chief, Investigations Branch

Subject: Bartes (Clarens) Francisco Antonio #22571 OA IB/3

GIST: Request for an expedite FBI check concerning the Subject.

DETAILS: CI/OA has requested that the results of Subject's FBI check be returned to their officer no later than January 10, 1961.

ACTION: It is requested that the FBI check be conducted through the FBI Liaison Representative.

H. Kenneth Clayton

TOBIASSEN January 6, 1961 PENDING

RALPH TOBIASSEN Deputy Director CIA Office of Security

CANCELLATION OF FILES

AUGUST 31, 1961

SUBJECT's OA No. (deleted) SO NO. 225714

DIVISION CANCELLING WH 4 August 31, 1961

FRANK BARTES: INFORMANT



An FBI report of July 3, 1964 subject: Christian Democratic Movement (MDC) stated:

BARTES was the head of the CRC in New Orleans but that on or about June 4, 1964 he had received from Miami headquarters a notification that the CRC was being dissolved. Bartes advised the New Orleans office of the FBI that the New Orleans delegate to the MDC was Jose Manuel Cusco, who was not very active, and that the Miami chief was Jose Ignacio Rasco. (Comment: There is no record of CUSCO in the RI/Main Index.) A PRQ II on BARTES shows that he was an FBI informant (dates not given) and that his contact was with S.A. DeBRUEYS."

The CIA reported:

Subject's 201 file shows that on the basis of favorable information provided CIA by a U.S. citizen and former employee of Frank Bartes, William C. Davis, Headquarters queried Havana about him. (DIR-46206 July 15, 1960) Havana requested a POA for his use in JMATE on December 29, 1960. Whether any paramilitary or operational use was made of Subject cannot be determined from the files listed above. (Comment: It is requested that Western Hemisphere/Caribbean Operations Group answer this question). The POA was cancelled on August 30, 1961 at the request of WH/4 which has no further operational interest."

Frank Bartes connection to the Deputy Director/Plans began with a December 29, 1960, Provisional Operational Approval request that was granted January 30, 1961: "The request was canceled on August 30, 1961, and Bartes was not used during this interval. (Per JMWAVE 0483 December 4, 1967)." Frank Bartes had meetings with the Domestic Contacts Division: "The first contact of Domestic Contacts Division New Orleans with (deleted) occurred on May 4, 1961. Between that date and January 1967, a total of 13 meetings took place. Bartes is the source of six Domestic Contacts Division reports. Contact has not been terminated." [CIA Memo 8 1.12.68] While he was being debriefed by DCD Bartes asked to be put in touch with Phil Klepack, who had been an assistant to the United States Naval Attaché in Havana. On May 8, 1961 DCD reported:

Mr. BARTES said that there is some chemical the name of which he did not know which can be added to the oil in diesel locomotive which will cause the cylinders to freeze thereby paralyzing their movement. He said

the particular additive which he heard of was practically impossible to detect and that therefore an examination of the oil in the locomotive would not indicate sabotage. However, be that as it may, this matter never did come to fruition and Bartes left Cuba on the day that diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba were broken. The Consolidated Railways of Cuba has been intervened by the government and we understand that in the process Mr. Bartes has lost in the neighborhood of seven million dollars.

HEMMING told this researcher:

Bartes was a very distinguished guy, a close friend of Bill Pawley. He was of Spanish descent, very patrician. This ain't no flat nosed beaner, tortilla roller. This is a goddamn aristocrat. The guy is honorable.

On May 21, 1963, this article appeared in *The New Orleans Times Picayune*:

#### CUBAN COUNCIL ENVOY IS HEARD

Franklin, La. Man Honored for Editorial

Cubans have the feeling they have been sold out, not only by the American people, but by the American Government, Frank Bartes said Monday night...Bartes, a delegate of the Cuban Revolutionary Council spoke at a meeting sponsored by the DRE, Alpha-66, the Second National Front of Escambray and the Council. CARLOS BRINGUIER also spoke.

A Counter-Intelligence Research & Analysis memorandum stated: "On June 25, 1962, Lawrence La Borde, HEMMING, Howard K. Davis paid a visit to Frank Bartes in New Orleans and reached an agreement to train anti-Castro Cubans." [CIA Attach. No.5. Garrison 8.7.67]

#### BARTES INFORMS CIA RE: JUNE 25, 1963 MEETING WITH HEMMING

A memorandum from the Chief of the New Orleans Domestic Contacts Division Office, Subject, "Proposal Made to New Orleans Refugee Group for the Military Training of a Refugee Group in the State of Louisiana," stated:

1. On Thursday, June 28, 1962, Cuban Revolutionary Council Delegate among the Cuban refugees, Frank Bartes, spoke with Lloyd Ray, with whom he is on friendly terms and (illegible) he could give us some interesting information.

2. The information he gave us is certainly not foreign positive intelligence but it may be of some interest to the Counter-Intelligence Staff.

3. Bartes said that on Monday, June 25, 1962, he had been contacted by three U.S. citizens named Larry La Borde, HEMMING and Howard K. Davis. Bartes says that he had met La Borde some time ago in Miami. At any rate, these three people told Bartes and another Cuban refugee here in New Orleans at a meeting held in Bartes house that they were anxious to begin training of a group of Cuban refugees in the New Orleans area. They would train them as guerilla fighters and as demolition experts with the idea of infiltrating into Cuba.

4. Bartes says that he and another Cuban refugee from New Orleans went to Miami a month or so ago and at that time they met La Borde and La Borde had told them that he was interested in working with the Cuban refugees and that he had been previously been connected with a training camp in the Everglades and that camp was abandoned because of fires in the Everglades.

5. When Bartes returned to New Orleans, according to him, he called the local FBI office and asked them, if he could, in his words, 'clear' La Borde. The Bureau told him that it could not give him an official clearance, they would look into the situation and contact (illegible) would contact Mr. Bartes and Mr. Rabel, who is the nominal head of the Cuban movement in New Orleans.

6. Bartes says some days later the FBI contacted Luis Rabel and told him as far as La Borde was concerned, off [sic]. Curiously enough, both Bartes and Rabel took this to mean the FBI clearance of La Borde, so when La Borde and the other contacted Rabel and Bartes in New Orleans, they had no hesitancy in working with them.

7. We, of course, told Bartes that all of this was out of the question and we had absolutely nothing to do with such matters and could not offer any advice which he seemed to be asking for. He said, however, that the (illegible) was giving us this information was that these men (text covered) that the CIA is doing nothing and is preventing other people (text covered) d that they are anxious to do something to help the Cuban (text covered). And Bartes said that since he had furnished us with information (text covered) thought that we should know about the present situation.

8. The three men gave to Bartes the documents which (text covered) which is a clipping, or alleged clipping from the *Denver Post* of Sunday June 3, 1962, which castigates CIA and Dr. Miro Cardona, the other document which is undated, and which is signed by Luis del Nodal Vega who styles himself Military Coordinator MR 30 11, GERALD PATRICK

HEMMING JR., G/W Instructor for INTERPEN and Howard K. Davis, G/W Instructor for INTERPEN, and is approved by Carlos Rodriguez Quesada, National Coordinator for MR 30 11, Arturo Gonzales Gonzalez MR 30 11, Dr. Odoardo Fonseca, M.D. MR 30 11. Bartes was also told by HEMMING and (text covered) this document had been presented to the CIA in Miami last year but that (text covered) come of it.

9. As we said above, we told Bartes that while we would be glad to have copies of any of the documents which he had, we could not and would not advise him in any manner, shape or form in connection with any such operation. He seemed to understand that we could not help him and when he left he said that he would tell the three men, La Borde, HEMMING and Davis, that he could not go along with them.

10. While Bartes did not tell us this, we did ascertain from a source who is a close friend of Bartes that he had seen Bartes with the men described above, and they looked like a bunch of thugs. He also said that Bartes had told him confidentially that he was dealing with these people as a representative of the New Orleans refugee organization but he did not give him any details. He did tell the other men, however, that these men were armed and therefore potentially dangerous.

11. We pass this information on for what it is worth. [LAR Memo Burke to Collins 1962] The CIA stated "Bartes reached an agreement with La Borde who, he said, was anti-CIA.

Frank Bartes told an investigator for Jim Garrison that:

...when he took over the Cuban Revolutionary Council in November 1962 membership lists had been prepared for the New Orleans Division and that these membership lists remained essentially the same for the New Orleans area. During the period of his administration Mr. Bartes had two informal meetings of the Council at his home and the persons he remembers as attending these meetings at his home are indicated by a check mark next to their name on Attachment No. 3. According to Mr. Bartes, Mr. Lawrence La Borde of this city would occasionally come to the meetings of the Revolutionary Council, but Mr. Bartes does not recall having Mr. La Borde in his home at any time to attend a meeting of the Council. Mr. Bartes recalls that Mr. La Borde introduced him to JERRY PATRICK HEMMING and to HOWARD DAVIS in late 1962 but he does not recall whether La Borde brought these two men to his home for the introduction, or whether the introduction was made elsewhere. He does recall, however, that on one occasion JERRY PATRICK HEMMING and HOWARD DAVIS came to his (Bartes) residence to try to obtain funds for a training camp in the Covington area, and to locate a site for the training camp. Mr. Bartes was not able to assist in obtaining funds for this project,

but states that he did fly over the Covington area with HEMMING and Davis in an attempt to locate a suitable training area in early 1963 in an aircraft rented from the Pan-Air Corporation located at the New Orleans Lakefront Airport. He recalls that Howard Davis piloted the aircraft and that the conversation indicated that the training area, if one could be located, would be used to train a team of men to blow up the Shell Oil Refinery in Havana Harbor. Bartes expected that his operation had the sanction and support of our State Department and/or the CIA but later learned, through his superiors in Miami, that it was a private project of HEMMING and DAVIS and the end result was that it was not given the support of the Cuban Revolutionary Council.

These names were on attachment No. 3: CARLOS BRINGUIER, Arnesto Napolian Rodriguez, Manuel Gil and Orestes Pena. Frank Bartes told the HSCA: "Tony Varona was especially leery of the plan, also news reports of the camp contributed to the rejection of the idea." When questioned in HUNT v. WEBERMAN, HUNT denied knowing Frank Bartes.

In June 1993 Howard K. Davis recalled:

We did not establish a training camp there, but someone else did. The only reason it wasn't established was because the guy who took us to Louisiana was a CIA boat captain [Larry La Borde] down in the Florida area. After we had made arrangements and had done some preliminary work, he went to the newspapers and all of a sudden it was in the front page of the New Orleans newspapers. And they had a big story about how we were seen going up the Mississippi River in a PT boat. None of this was true.

#### WILLIAM A. PENNINGTON

On June 26, 1962, William A. Pennington, an unemployed male nurse, contacted Army Intelligence Region V, 112th INTC Group, New Orleans:

On June 26, 1962 William Pennington, presently a patient at U.S. Veterans Hospital, New Orleans, reported that he has been in contact with Luis Ravel (phonetic) [Rabel] concerning Pennington's possible recruitment for military service with anti-Castro forces. Ravel advised Pennington that President Cardona arrived in New Orleans on Sunday, June 24, 1962, and that 'plans are being made for a move soon.' Pennington interprets this to mean that an invasion of Cuba is imminent. Ravel stated that he hoped Pennington would soon be able to leave the hospital and arrange for a personal meeting with him. Pennington, who is being treated for a gall bladder disorder, expects to be released from the hospital within the next 10 days. Pennington requested that this office furnish him with U.S. Army Field manuals dealing with infantry tactics."

Pennington was advised to request such publications through the U.S. Government Printing office.

On July 9, 1962, William A. Pennington told Army Intelligence that he had again been in contact with Luis Ravel concerning Pennington's possible military service with anti-Castro forces. On the evening of July 9, 1962, exact date unknown, a sailing vessel, equipped with two diesel engines, further description unknown, left the New Orleans yacht basin. Aboard the vessel was a landing party, strength unknown led by two United States citizens, Larry (LNU) [La Borde] and FRANK (LNU) [STURGIS]. Both of these individuals are former members of the United States Marine Corps. The vessel will reportedly anchor 20 miles off the Cuban coast, at which point the landing party will proceed to the beach by motor launch. The purpose of the landing is to bring out some people, however, Pennington does not know whether or not these unidentified persons desire to voluntarily leave Cuba. Through his conversations with Ravel, Pennington gained the impression that the individuals will be involuntarily brought from Cuba...Pennington was prepared to accompany the landing party; however, at approximately 12:00 p.m. July 9, 1962, Ravel advised him that the landing party was formed and that his services would not be needed. Ravel told Pennington that the vessel would participate in a similar operation in about two weeks. Pennington is to contact Ravel again on July 14, 1962. If Pennington takes any part in the operations of the anti-Castro forces, the expenses of his family will be defrayed by the Pemberton Theater Chain, Miami, Florida.

William A. Pennington also contacted the CIA, advising:

Larry La Borde, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING and Howard K. Davis...were anxious to begin training a group of Cuban refugees in the New Orleans area...the reason he was giving [CIA] this information was that these three men hate the CIA, and have said that the CIA is doing nothing to overthrow Castro.

William Pennington gave the Agency a newspaper article in which HEMMING, Howard K. Davis, and several members of the 30th of November Movement castigated it. [CIA F82-0428/5] Contacted in 1993, Luis Rabel stated that although the name sounded familiar, he did not remember William Pennington. He conceded that he met a lot of "screwballs and nuts that offered help" around this time. HEMMING told this researcher:

During the meeting with Luis Rabel we also met with Guy Banister, although the FBI shit doesn't mention it. We went next door to Luis Rabel's son-in-law to use his telephone. Banister was there.

WILLIAM PENNINGTON IS 'ROLLED OVER'

By July 17, 1962, William Pennington had been "rolled over" by the INTERPEN crew. When William Pennington made his next report to Army Intelligence, he told the agents that he "has now gone all the way and holds the rank of Captain" in the anti-Castro forces in the New Orleans area. Pennington vehemently attacked the U.S. Government in general, and the various federal and military intelligence agencies in particular for their failure to take any action to overthrow the Castro regime. Pennington also strongly attacked the maritime and trade policies which allows Greek, Liberian, Swedish, English and Canadian vessels to load military equipment and supplies at the Port of New Orleans for delivery to Cuba. Pennington requested information as to 'what would happen' if such a vessel were to be sabotaged in the Port of New Orleans, or 'pirated on the high seas.' Pennington's conversation implied he might possibly be contemplating such actions; however, he made no definite statement to that effect." This FBI document on Pennington cited an article by William Stuckey in the July 21, 1962, edition of the *New Orleans States-Item* about HEMMING. That was the last the Army Intelligence heard from Pennington.

# THE DEATH OF WILLIAM PENNINGTON

The HSCA tried to interview Pennington and found: "Information received from neighbors, who 'request no identification,' Subject is 'deceased.' Died approximately one and a half years ago. Family still resides at the above address and was not available for interview." [HSCA OCR William Brown 5.15.78] The parents of William Pennington told HSCA investigator William Brown that their son had died in 1976.

LA BORDE AND WILLIAM STUCKEY

William Stuckey advised the FBI on July 25, 1962, that Lawrence La Borde had contacted him. He claimed to have some connection to the CIA and to have sailed back and forth to Cuba between 1960 and 1961. "La Borde informed Stuckey that he was a soldier-of-fortune...and that he had worked with JERRY PATRICK, aka JERRY PATRICK HEMMING, an ex-Marine." In August 1962 Lawrence La Borde had reportedly duped certain persons into buying a schooner by saying he and a crew would operate it for Cuban operations. In September this CIA Dispatch was generated:

Argimino Fonseca Fernandez is organizing a group or association called Hermandad Cubana (Cuban Brotherhood) which includes about seven or eight Americans. Fonseca lives with two Americans in Miami, Florida. In the upper room of this house the group has arms and equipment stored. It is also selling fund-raising bonds; about twenty or thirty persons are engaged in selling them. Among the Americans who go around with Fonseca is one called "Larry" who, with another American in the group,

was an instructor of Fidel Castro's troops during the early part of the Castro Regime. Fonseca makes no attempt to hide anti-American feelings, and he says that he does not want to have anything to do with this Agency personnel. He also said that if he had to join the army, the army would have to watch out for him. End of Dispatch. [CIA FOIA 18626]

HEMMING: JULY 1962

STUCKEY'S JULY 21, 1962 ARTICLE ON HEMMING  
HEMMING AND THE NEW ORLEANS TRAINING CAMP

William Stuckey did a feature story on HEMMING and INTERPEN for the July 21, 1962, *New Orleans States-Item*, which read:

NEW ORLEANS AND THE AMERICAS

ADVENTURER WORKS HARD TO ESTABLISH ANTI-CASTRO BASE  
NEAR COVINGTON

By BILL STUCKEY

Local Cubans and a shadowy American adventurer have been working feverishly - but unsuccessfully - for over a month to set up an anti-Castro guerilla training camp base near Covington.

The American soldier-of-fortune, *The States-Item* learned, is GERALD PATRICK HEMMING. He claims to be an ex-Marine.

PATRICK first popped into the news last summer when Miami newspapers found he was training anti-Castro guerillas in the Everglades. He called his band the Intercontinental Penetration Force. Both he and INTERPEN however, dropped out of sight last fall after the FBI began checking to see if he was violating U.S. neutrality laws.

Last February, PATRICK showed up in New Orleans, apparently at the invitation of local Cuban Revolutionary Council leaders and other Cubans who wanted to take direct action against Castro. With the help of anonymous U.S. patrons, the Cubans began supplying PATRICK with machine guns, explosives and other military supplies.

PATRICK made regular trips here, slipping in and out of the port secretly in a modern, well-equipped PT boat.

Last spring, another anonymous U.S. patron offered PATRICK a large tract of land - complete with airstrip - on the north shore of Lake Pontchartrain. PATRICK agreed to set up a training base, handling

classes of 50 or so Cuban recruits at a time. After completion of training, the guerillas would be like their Everglades counterparts, transported to Cuba secretly to work with the anti-Castro underground. The men also would have been used to make lightening raids on the Cuban coast to divert the attention of Castro's militia from important sabotage missions.

Luis Rabel, local delegate of the Cuban Revolutionary Council, confirmed last week the Miami Council Headquarters nixed the Covington base for undisclosed reasons.

Who is this PATRICK?

Rabel describes him as a rangy, six-foot-seven type who can shoot two heavy machine guns from the hip at the same time, cowboy style. Miami sources say he wears an Australian bush hat, a neat beard and wears his hair long and wavy. He's been described as an Errol Flynn type in appearance, a French musketeer type and as the "biggest, strongest and homsomest" man in INTERPEN.

Although he claims his group has little money, local Cubans guess that he has extensive financial backing. His equipment is of the latest model, and the power boat he brings here periodically is "at least a \$20,000 job."

PATRICK tells the Cubans he was to topple Castro because the Fidelista regime imprisoned his Cuban wife on charges of "counter-revolutionary activity." She has been sentenced to 30 years.

About 30, PATRICK claims to have served with the Marine Corps for more than four years, including a stint in the Far East as a sergeant with the Marine Air Wing. However, when PATRICK first began to get headlines there, Miami sources said Marine records show no trace of either a PATRICK or a HEMMING.

PATRICK also says he was a paratroop instructor with Castro in 1958 and stayed on with the Cuban regime until August 1960. About the time he left Cuba, he was also involved in an "invasion" intended to topple the Somoza regime in Nicaragua.

Estimates of the size of his organization range from 30 to 100 men - Cubans, Americans, Latins, Canadians and others. "We weed out all the crackpots and bums" he said.

INTERPEN is connected with the International Anti-Communist Brigade headed by FRANK FIORINI...Both FIORINI and PATRICK at one time had connections with Sanchez Arango, former Minister of Foreign Relations and Education under pre-Batista President Carlos Prio Socarras. It's an

educated guess that PATRICK'S big backer might be Prio, who reputedly left Cuba with a huge fortune.

Although the PATRICK guerilla base plan fell through here, there is enough happening to whet the appetite of any invasion-rumor connoisseur. Last April 1962 the *New Orleans States-Item* confirmed for the first time Cubans were trained here (New Orleans) at the old Algiers ammunition dump, for the Bay of Pigs invasion. There Cuban leader, an ex-Castro officer named Nino Diaz, returned to Miami when the New Orleans force was unable to land.

HEMMING 1994:

This was a burn article. It's bullshit. We used sail boats, fishing boats. Stuckey had a goddamn gun stuck in his fuckin' head. Why was he endangering our lives?" In a Freedom of Information Act Request to the CIA HEMMING asked for: "Reports not delivered to the Warren Commission showing that shortly after my visit to the New Orleans area to establish an anti-Castro training camp north of Lake Ponchartrain in 1962, government agents immediately thereafter co-opted our supporters and duplicated our efforts for unknown purposes.

#### OSWALD AND HEMMING AT FORT MEYERS BEACH IN MID-1962

HEMMING:

He turned up at Fort Meyers Beach. On a steel, two-masted 48-foot boat, another crew of people that Larry La Borde conned into sailing down the Miami with their vessels, to fight for freedom. OSWALD was seen around those people. He was on deck telling fucking ghost stories. I was gonna confront him: 'Who's this guy from Los Angeles says he knows me?' They called back up to the harbor master and he said this guy had left. OSWALD was the missing crew member at Fort Meyers Beach.

#### OSWALD AND HEMMING IN NEW ORLEANS IN MID-1962

HEMMING told this researcher:

OSWALD was at the fucking airport, got a glimpse of his ass at the airport when we got on the plane to do the first overflight survey in the scene in mid-1962. In New Orleans in 1962. We saw him. a familiar fucking face.

#### THE CIA'S TRAINING CAMPS IN THE NEW ORLEANS AREA

HUNT wrote that in early 1961: "Nino Diaz had been dusted off, and together with a hundred untrained followers, sent to the CIA's amphibious base on Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana." [HUNT Day p156] In 1967 the FBI found no traces of this base:

During the years 1960, 1961, 1962, no information was obtained from sources regarding a camp where guerrilla training was given to Cuban exiles in the Lake Pontchartrain area. The only information contained in the files of the New Orleans Office regarding a training camp for Cuban exiles in the New Orleans area is contained in a New Orleans letter to the Bureau, dated March 23, 1961, in the case captioned "Clip" Bufile 105-89923, New Orleans file 105-1446 which sets forth information that William A. Royer appeared at the New Orleans office on March 13, 1961 and identified himself as a security officer in charge of an operation under the caption "CLIP" which is identified as the U.S. Army Element Composite Operation Group, Pentagon located at the Belle Chasse Ammunition Depot. He advised there were approximately 140 to 200 Cubans located at that base undergoing expert training in underwater demolition use of sabotage techniques and combat techniques, use of sabotage techniques and combat techniques. ROYER also advised that there was a ship at the docks below New Orleans, which was being loaded with ammunition and that the story they were giving out as a cover is the fact that they were working on a number of weapons and training personnel in the use of these weapons as well as experiments in various types of armament. ROYER explained that they had obtained a home at Pass Christian, Miss for use by approximately ten of these Cubans under cover of being foreign exchange student in the country who were using this base as a vacation spot. Be advised that GIL STRICKLER was the commanding officer in charge of this training group. ROYER indicated that he had briefed Chief of Police Joseph Giarrusso and other top officials of the New Orleans PD as well as Captain Bradley of the Louisiana State Police and had three persons in the US Border Patrol. Information was also set forth in this communication that on 3/10/11, Royer and Gene shanks, who identified themselves as investigators for CIA contacted S William F. Dukes and SA Percy V. Richardson at Gulfport, Miss. and furnished data relative to the nature of their operation. They also furnished information that they had rented house at 551 Rest Mach Blvd., Pass Christian, Miss. use as a training base for a limited number of Cuban volunteers under the guise of foreign exchange students. The New Orleans States and New Orleans item in its issue of 4/7/G1 carried an article entitled "Invasion Cheers Refugees in New Orleans", which quoted Sergio Arcacha Smith head of the Cuban Revolutionary Front in Louisiana, as saying there were many New Orleans area Cubans in the invasion force but he refused to hazard a guess as to the number. Smith declared that none of the force recruited in New Orleans were Americans. Smith said that many of the revolutionists formerly were students in New Orleans and Baton Rouge and other recruits came to New Orleans from Texas and Oklahoma. SMITH said

these individuals were sent on to Miami, Fla. and none were trained in New Orleans. Sergio Arcacha Smith, head of the Cuban Revolutionary Front (FRD) advised on 10/9/81, that the FRD no longer had office it the Balter Building in New Orleans, but that the offices of the FRD were then located at the home address of Smith located at 112 Egret St., New Orleans. Mr. ARCACHA related that the FRD had been largely inactive in the New Orleans area, adding that activities of the organization at New Orleans had been limited to collection of funds and clothing to be used to assist Cuban anti-CASTRO refugees in the New Orleans area. On 12/6/61, SMITH advised that although the activities of the FRD had been dissolved in the New Orleans area a Campaign known as the "Crusade to Free Cuba" would be continued under his guidance and also under the sponsorship of the Revolutionary Council. He explained that the FRD at Miami had merged into the Revolutionary Council. An article in the New Orleans Times-Picayune, a daily newspaper, on 12/2/61, carried a story captioned "Crusade Begins to Free Cuba". This article stated that a two month crusade to free Cuba had been started at the beginning of December, 1961 and would continue until the end of January, 1963. The article said that the founders claimed that the purpose of this crusade was to raise money to educate New Orleans of the danger that Communist orientated Cuba presents to the US. According to the article the Crusade to free Cuba had the support of the Mayor of the City of New Orleans and that a proclamation had been issued by Mayor VICTOR H. Schiro of New Orleans on 12/1/61, backing this crusade. The article further reported that local prominent citizens of the New Orleans area had been chosen to direct the crusade and the campaign chairman was W. A. Monteleone a hotel executive. [FBI 62-109060-4759]

On October 26, 1967, Donovan Pratt of CI R&A sent a Memorandum to C/WH/COG (Cuban Operation Group) the Subject of which was "Garrison Investigation: Belle Chasse Training Camp: "A recently published booklet concerning the Garrison case and entitled *Plot or Politics?* was written by *States-Item* reporters Rosemary James and Jack Wardlaw. The following appears on page 49: 'Meanwhile, Executive Assistant DA Alvin Oser...came across a third training camp near Belle Chasse, Louisiana.' Pratt wanted to know everything about this site. This memo was routed to DAVID PHILLIPS who drafted this reply:

WH/C 67-336

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, CI/R & A

SUBJECT: Garrison Investigation: Belle Chasse Training Camp

REFERENCE: CI/ R & A Memorandum Dated October 26, 1967

1. Listed below us the information pertaining to the Belle Chasse training camp which was requested in reference memorandum.

- a. The training site was activated on February 18, 1961 and the first group of trainees arrived on February 18, 1961.
- b. The site was located eight miles from New Orleans at the U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot which had been inactive for five years.
- c. The site covered 3,500 acres of marshlands adjoining the Mississippi River. The depot consisted of ammunition magazines storage areas, warehouses, various frame and brick buildings, many miles of interlocking railroad tracks and both hard surface and improved roads and the entire site was enclosed by a chain link fence. Since much of the terrain was unaccessible and unsuitable for training purposes, due to the marshy ground and poisonous reptiles, a limited area was used for actual training purposes. This area was located where the activity could neither be heard nor observed.

The base closed on April 21, 1961, and the training site was completely sterilized by Base and cleared Navy personnel after all demolition, ammunition, ordnance items, and field equipment was sterilized and air-lifted to a Midwest depot. Material on loan from the military was restored to original condition and returned to the appropriate military component.

- e. Approximately 300 Cubans were trained at the site over a six week period. The only known list of trainees which was available at Headquarters has not been located to date. A search has been initiated for this list.
- f. The training consisted of weapons firing, demolition, guerilla warfare, communications, UDT, etc. One group was trained as a strike force assault battalion and was sent to Guatemala on March 22, 1961, to join the Bay of Pigs invasion strike force.
- g. The training camp location never came to public knowledge through press media. However, the *New York Times* and New Orleans radio and television stations reported that a Cuban training camp was located outside of New Orleans, according to information emanating from Miami. Inquiries were directed to high level military and Louisiana officials, who denied knowledge of such a camp and the site was not identified. Subsequent to the above publicity, the representative of a leading T.V. station appeared at the main gate of the installation and requested permission to enter and take pictures. Naval authorities denied permission and there were no further inquiries. The actual training site was quite some distance from the main gates of the depot which was identified by an inscription cut into the concrete 'U.S. Naval Ammunition Depot.' Whether the T.V. representative was trying to identify the location of the

rumored training site or simply take pictures of a deactivated historical landmark for posterity, is not known.

h. The training camp was entirely Agency controlled and the training was conducted by Agency personnel.

2. During the initial phase of activation, the depot was sterilized to avoid any indication of government interest and to prevent disclosure of actual physical location of training camp to newly assigned trainees. For example, all U.S. Navy references on boxcars, buildings, etc. were painted out or destroyed. Although the first group of trainees transferred to the base from Florida knew they were going to an abandoned ammunition depot located near New Orleans, maximum precautions were taken to insure that the site location could not be pinpointed while the trainees were being transported from the airport to the camp. Despite all precautions, one incident occurred that is significant in view of the recent publication naming the Belle Chasse camp. One night, a group of trainees arriving at the Moisant Airport from Miami, were observed by Orlando Piedra, the former Chief of the Bureau of Investigation during the Batista regime. Piedra obtained the license numbers of the rental vehicles used for transporting the trainees to the camp. His license number was likewise observed by our security officer at the scene. Piedra, who is one of the individuals included in the CI R&A memorandum dated September 15, 1967 (page 3 -item 21), and memorandum #5 (paragraph 4-J) may be the individual who provided the information contained in the recent publication. In any event, it would be surprising indeed of some of the 300 trainees involved have not discussed their training activities in detail over the past six years. With the clue that the camp was located at an abandoned Navy ammunition depot outside New Orleans, a long-time resident such as Piedra, Arcacha Smith, Fowler, or La Borde, would eventually be able to narrow down the location despite the extreme security precautions that were in effect during the training period. Although only the commanding officers of the ammunition depot and Naval Air Station were knowledgeable of the activities on the grounds, an enterprising reporter or investigator could probably surface other corroborating bits of information which would help identify the training site. For example, despite the fact the majority of supplies and equipment was procured through Navy facilities, certain items were necessarily purchased on the local market, thereby producing a sudden influx of cash in an area that had been dormant for five years. In any event, although the Garrison investigation may eventually lead to identifying the site as a government installation, there has never been any evidence or publicity identifying the Agency as the actual operators of the training camp.

3. CI/R&A may wish to discuss further aspects of the Belle Chasse training camp with Mr. Gilbert Stricker former Base Chief, and Mr. Willaim

Royer former Security Officer, who are presently assigned to Headquarters. Mr. Strickler can be reached at this SOD office and Mr. Royer can be reached at OS/SRS.

Signed DAVID PHILLIPS Chief, WH/COG

DDP/WH/COG/CICS/N. Gratz:ear

Distribution:

Orig & 1 - Addressee

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1 - C/WH/COG

1 - WH/COG/CICS

1- Originator

[CIA OGC 67-2061]

[CIA MFR 2.14.68 Sarah K. Hall] Why was this memo concerning the Belle Chasse training camp routed to PHILLIPS whose job relating to the Bay of Pigs was supposed to have only concerned propaganda? DAVID PHILLIPS had a detailed knowledge of this camp. If he hadn't organized it, he certainly had visited it. PHILLIPS was familiar with Larry La Borda, who was close to HEMMING.

#### BARTES

In June 1962 Frank Bartes reported [deleted] that Lawrence Joseph La Borda, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING Jr. and Howard Kenneth Davis called on him and said they wanted to train Cuban refugees as guerrilla fighters and demolition experts for use in Cuba. Bartes reached an agreement with La Borda who, he said, was anti-CIA. [NARA Record Number: 1993.08.02.10:00:45:150060]

#### AMERICANS WHO WISH TO VOLUNTEER TO FIGHT IN CUBA

Counter-Intelligence Chief JAMES ANGLETON either generated or approved this report:

TO: Director, FBI. Attention Mr. S. J. Papich **August 2, 1962**

From: Deputy Director (Plans)

Subject "United States Citizens Who Wish to Volunteer to Fight for the Liberation of Cuba."

1. Reference is made to this Agency's CSCI-3,767,435 of October 4, 1961, Subject: United States Citizens Who Wish to Volunteer to Fight for the Liberation of Cuba.

2. The following information was received by this Agency from a usually reliable source concerning another interview on August 14, 1961 with the group in the above reference:

- a. Source reported that "Little Joe" and Pat Stepanick came to ask him for help in obtaining a fragmentation hand grenade of the pineapple type. They also wanted source to accompany them on a mission planned by themselves to blow up the Cuban gunboat which was to be returned to Cuba that next day in exchange for the return of the Eastern Airlines plane. They said the object of this mission was to provoke an incident which would tend to force United States armed action against Cuba. Source said all efforts to obtain the grenade were fruitless.
- b. According to source, the group with which the four Americans were working was called the Intercontinental Penetration Force (INTERPEN); "Patrick" (GERALD PATRICK HENNING) is the man who was acting as the chief of the group, and he had been training a bunch of Cubans in the Everglades. They relied a great deal on a man called "Larry" whose surname sounded something like Yidisepe. Identity cards for the members of INTERPEN were signed by a man called FRANK FIORINI, said to be of Italian descent. Source said there was another person who seemed to be higher in command than FIORINI; this person was described as a tall, stout man who had great prestige in the Junta de Liberacion headed by Aureliano Sanchez Arrango.
- c. Source said that when he arrived with the two Americans at the place where they were living, a young man, allegedly a reporter for an American paper in Miami who spoke Spanish with a Mexican accent, was waiting for them. "Little Joe" said later that this man was their agent and had been the one to tell them about the Cuban gunboat plus information which had not been published in the papers. The newspaperman, according to the source, said that he had verified the fact that agents of this Agency had the district where the men were living under surveillance, and he was heard to refer to a bookstore. Source said he asked "Little Joe" to notify him how they knew when they were under surveillance, and there the newspaperman said the agents of this Agency gathered. Source reported that the attitude of these men was that the Bureau and this Agency must be regarded as enemies because they will not permit any action against Castro and Communism. Stepanick mentioned the fact that he had been arrested for vagrancy and held for 20 days in order to get rid of him.
- d. According to the source, while he and the two men were waiting across the street from the Junta De Liberacion office they were joined by a tall young man with a mustache who said he was a Hungarian named Francoise. He said he spoke French and had fought in Indochina. Another man who joined them at the same place was a man whose left arm was

missing. He claimed he was Joseph Canfield and was also known as "Gitano" outside of the United States..." [CIA CSCI 3/771,919 cc Department of State, Department of the Army]

#### HEMMING'S TRAINING CAMP AUGUST 1962

The CIA stated: "New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison has charged that Cuban training activities at Lake Pontchartrain were Agency sponsored. While this statement is false, the Cuban Revolutionary Front which later became the Cuban Revolutionary Council was Agency created and funded." [CIA OS Rasco Memo 12.14.67] HEMMING 1994:

Part of my cadre had operations in the Covington, Louisiana area, near Lake Pontchartrain, [where OSWALD grew up]. It was set up unofficially. We had scattered facilities at Mandeville, Houma, La Combe and Algiers. Howard K. Davis was there. No Name Key was our next training facility.

HEMMING convinced New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison that David Ferrie was at this camp. In a memorandum to William C. Sullivan, William A. Branigan advised: "Garrison alleged David Ferrie was a member of a group of anti-Castro Cubans who were located in 1961 and 1962 at Lake Pontchartrain, Louisiana (deleted). Nothing in Bureau files to indicate David Ferrie connected with this (deleted)." [FBI 109060-4634]. On February 1, 1977, Raymond M. Reardon of CIA's Security Analysis Group/Office of Security, wrote a memo for the Deputy Inspector General, which stated:

1. During our Task Force meeting on January 27, 1977, there was some discussion of the question of any Agency training activities having taken place in the vicinity of New Orleans. The attached debriefing of a former Staff Employee in regard to training and demolitions came across my desk recently. You will note that paragraph 3 contains a reference to Agency training conducted near New Orleans circa 1960. I have also seen references to some Agency training that had taken place at the "Old Algiers Ammo Dump" near New Orleans and this may be the site referred to in the attached debriefing.
2. This Agency training should not be confused with the infamous training activity which took place at Lake Pontchartrain circa 1962. The Lake Pontchartrain activity was run by GERALD PATRICK HEMMING as part of his Intercontinental Penetration Force (INTERPEN). There was no Agency connection with any INTERPEN activities. FRANK STURGIS of Watergate fame was also connected with INTERPEN activities." [CIA FOIA 18658 SAG Memo w/h re: H 9.10.75]

Questioned in 1993 Rabel stated, "I heard of it but I never went there. I think it was in operation at one time." Mr. Blackmer of the HSCA questioned him about this: "Did you

ever go to Lake Pontchartrain to survey possible sites for any kind of (Access Restricted FBI/CIA)." Rabel was also asked about HEMMING:

Q. So did this man discuss with you the killing of Fidel Castro?

A. Oh, he had an obsession about it. In fact, he used to say, 'I just come back from Cuba. I took a shot at a man who had whiskers on.' I think this man was really unbalanced, truthfully. We were scared of him. We got to the point where we would - and yet he was crazy. That's the funny thing about it. He said all these kinds of crazy things. [HSCA Rabel Dep.]

HEMMING 1994:

Never had any conversations with him. He's a pudgy guy. What the fuck are we trading war stories with some pudgy fuck who ain't going on the boat with us?" HEMMING was intent on killing Castro: "We had a postmaster that was dying of cancer that volunteered to do the job. He was from Marathon, Florida. He had the balls to do one of those Islamic Jihad jobs.

William Stuckey wrote: "Both FIORINI and PATRICK at one time had connections with Sanchez Arrango, former Minister under President Carlos Prio...It's an educated guess that PATRICK'S big backer might be Prio." [New Orleans States Item 7.21.62] HEMMING told this researcher: "Marcos Jimenez Perez gave us more money than Prio did. Prio was a tightwad fuck." As a result of William Stuckey's article, on August 2, 1962, an FBI document entitled "Cuban Revolutionary Council, New Orleans, LA. IS - Cuba, NM File FRANK FIORINI" was generated: "Re New Orleans airtel to Bureau, July 10, 1962 transmitting a LHM concerning the possible establishment of a training camp in the New Orleans area. Enclosed for the Bureau and Miami is a copy of a news item that appeared in the New Orleans States-Item, July 21, 1962." [FBI 2-1499 NR 8.2.62] The next day the FBI generated a document on HEMMING and the Cuban Revolutionary Council. [FBI 105-1698 NO 8.3.62]

#### CLASSIFIED MESSAGE

ORIG: P. A. MAGGIO: gdr  
UNIT: Task Force TFW/CI  
DATE: August 30, 1962  
To: PRITY WAVE  
GYROSE  
REF: WAVE 7857 (IN 13819)\*

1. Paragraph 4 reference implies that FIORINI is under the impression Kubark has interest in operation. View fact FIORINI publicity hound and could easily implicate Kubark. Request Station through (deleted) dispel

any ideas FIORINI might have regarding Kubark interest soonest. Please advise action taken.

2. Was Guantanamo Naval Base or city intended?

End of Message.

TFW Comment: Reports efforts of Cuban revolutionaries connected with the Garceran group to procure crews for B-26 aircraft to be sent to a base in Central America.

C/TFW/PA-PROP (in draft)

Releasing Officer: William K. Harvey C/TFW

Authenticating Officer: VICTOR WALLEN C/TFW/CI.

[NARA 1993.06.30.13:35:02:780510]

HEMMING:

Sanchez Arrango arranged for two B-26's to be delivered. He had trouble moving the second one. That's where we came in. There would be interest in the movement of B-26s. That's a nasty bird.

On August 24, 1962, the FBI in Miami generated a document about HEMMING titled "Theodore Roosevelt Brigade." [FBI 105-6145 (field)] The FBI reported:

MM T-1 advised on **August 3, 1962**, that HEMMING was supposed to be the middle man in the sale of 250 pounds of C-4 explosive. MM T-1 advised, however, that HEMMING had been unable to obtain the explosive as of that time. He was to purchase the explosive for resale to one DAVID QUINTAS, 469 N.W. 48th Street, Miami, a Cuban exile involved in revolutionary activity.

MM T-1 advised that on **August 23, 1962**, QUINTAS contacted HEMMING and said that he hoped to leave Miami on the following day providing HEMMING could obtain a boat for transportation. MM T-1 said that on that same date, SAM BENTON, an American citizen who resides in Miami and who is employed as a private detective, arranged for the use of a boat which would be operated by HEMMING to carry QUINTAS and his men to the Bahamas and thereafter-to Cuba. This boat was the "Outlaw 6", a thirty foot Chris Craft twin-engine cabin cruiser. HEMMING and QUINTAS were planning to take a total of nineteen Cubans to Anguila Key in the Bahamas to remain there for a few days where they would meet another group of Cubans and then proceed to Cuba.

MM T-1 advised on **August 27, 1962**, that four groups of Cubans had left Miami on the previous evening for Fort Lauderdale, Florida, and that they

were maintaining telephone contact with QUINTAS in Miami for further instructions. It was planned that HEMMING would take the boat to a secure place where the Cubans and their equipment could be loaded without being seen by the U. S. Border Patrol or local police. The four groups of Cubans, however, returned to Miami and were not taken aboard the boat.

On **August 28, 1962**, Mr. J. H. WILCHESTER, U. S. Customs, Miami, Florida, advised that in the early morning hours of that date, Customs agents had observed the "Outlaw 6" at Pompano Beach, Florida, where it was being loaded with boxes, packages and steel drums. Mr. WILCHESTER said the boat contained no automatic weapons and among the several Americans abroad was GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, who claimed that they were going fishing. MM T-1 advised on August 28, 1962, that HEMMING had called Miami, Florida, to report that he had been stopped by U. S. Customs agent3 and that he was returning to Miami. On August 29, 1962, MM T-1 reported that HEMMING and his crew had returned to Miami but that HEMMING was impatient to attempt another expedition and hoped to leave within two or three weeks.

The FBI summed it up:

In August 1962 HEMMING planned a military expedition to Cuba. He obtained a boat and recruited Cuban exiles, but at the last moment the exiles deserted him, U.S. Customs agents searched the boat, and then the boat broke down and became inoperative.

#### HEMMING RETURNS TO MIAMI SEPTEMBER 1962

HEMMING left Louisiana in late August 1962 and returned to No Name Key. HEMMING told this researcher:

Masferrer had used it with Diosdado's permission after Bay of Pigs. They fiddlefucked around there a couple of months. Did shit. We had no interest in the place until May, June 1962.

On September 6, 1962 the FBI in Miami generated a document titled INTERPEN.

MM T-1 advised on September 8, 1962, that GERALD PATRICK HEMMING and five other Americans left Miami that day for Big Pine Key, Florida, where they were going to start to train a group of Cuban exiles in infantry tactics, small arms, demolition, and military formation. On September 10, 1962, DARREL C. CARICO, U. S. Border Patrol, Key West, Florida, advised that he had gone to Big Pine Key on the previous day where he observed some sixteen individuals in possession of several Enfield rifles, various makes and calibers of pistols and other military

equipment. CARICO said that the group consisted of six Americans, nine Cubans, and one Canadian, and included GERALD PATRICK HEMMING. He said that the group was planning to go to No Name Key, Florida, where they were to remain until about September 14, 1962, when they were to move back to their camp in the Florida Everglades. On **September 18, 1962**, Mr. J. H. WILCHESTER, Supervising Customs Agent, Miami, Florida, advised that Customs agents had visited the above-mentioned training camp and that they had confiscated several weapons which were in the possession of members of the training camp.

Customs confiscated several weapons to ensure they had not been modified in violation of Federal law. No arrests were made. [FBI 2-1693-64] HEMMING 1994: "Diosdado came there twice." That month, the CIA questioned an FBI source about the training camp. [Unmarked CIA Doc. Enc. 14 H, GP Jr. Ref. II Tracing Status: Not traced. Prior Reference - full para. deleted found in *Allen v. DOD*; Diosdado, Cesar 1774 Yale Ave Chula Vista, CA. 91913 telephone 619-421-5256] On September 24, 1962, the FBI in Miami generated a document titled INTERPEN.

#### HEMMING: OCTOBER 1962

HEMMING claimed that during 1962 he had obtained information on Soviet missiles in Cuba prior to, during and after the Cuban Missile Crisis of October 1962 which he furnished to then-Governor of Florida Farris Bryant and to the Office of Naval Intelligence in "reference to my liaison with certain Marine Corps and Naval Aviation officers involved in Cuban overflights, during the missile crisis." [HEMMING ONI Appeal 12.22.76] After the Cuban missile crisis, HEMMING appeared on Allen Courtney's radio program, and spoke openly about his activities training anti-Castro soldiers in the Keys. HEMMING told this researcher: "Courtney was a mean man who became our friend. He didn't believe the government would put people in jail who were really trying to fight communists." When Justice Department officials received news of this broadcast, they ordered another investigation of INTERPEN. HEMMING told this researcher:

There were some people who considered the whole Kennedy scenario treasonous. You have the Civil Rights Movement, you've got all this unrest that's going on. The Cuban missile crisis was considered a sell out, and then he's letting the niggers have the country? Treason. Many people, had they the connections, would have put money out. The only reason they didn't, was that they didn't have the connections. Maybe I was abrupt with people. Maybe my bedside manner wasn't that good, A.J. But I was kind of pissed off, especially after the Bay of Pigs. Some of my guys got wiped out down there, they were assets, the fucking company authorized these fucking people to be blown. I was demoralized that the greatest fucking power on the fucking planet couldn't pull off a simple fucking operation. After the Cuban missile crisis, nobody was doing a fucking thing. Jesus Christ, the fucking war is over? What the fuck is going on here? What the fuck is going on here? Have they given up? Tremendous demoralization

was occurring. After the Cuban missile crisis Bobby Kennedy decided to join the fuckin' pack and say 'Everyone out of Cuba' to avoid further confrontations. They were scared shitless. They thought it was the end of the world. The team started forming after the Cuban missile crisis. That's when everything started. That's my best information. OSWALD shows up December 7, 1962.

MM T-1 advised on **October 8, 1962**, that HEMMING continued to operate his military training camp at No Name Key, Florida. On October 29, 1962, MM T-1 advised that most of the Americans who had been at the training camp at No Name Key had returned to Miami where they were planning to borrow or rent a boat to go on a military expedition to Cuba. On **November 13, 1962**, the CIA advised the FBI that it had "no operational interest in INTERPEN or in any individuals belonging to it." [FBI 2-1693-67] On **November 19, 1962**, the FBI in Miami, Florida, generated a document on INTERPEN. The FBI reported, "In **November, 1962** HEMMING was working with a private detective Sam Benton in Miami. HEMMING was supposed to sink pleasure boats so the owners could collect insurance. The first boat he was to sink was a 31 foot CrisCraft, however, HEMMING became frightened and refused to sink the boat. Therein, the business enterprise between Benton and HEMMING was terminated.

#### SAM BENTON

In 1939 Sam "Benton" Finkelman (born July 4, 1920) stowed away on a Polish ocean liner going to Panama. The Panamanians deported him to Havana. After a five year wait because of a derogatory immigration report, Sam Benton was allowed to enter the United States on condition he join the Army Intelligence Corps. After the war, Sam Benton returned to Cuba and by 1958, became friendly with Juan Orta. In 1960 Sam Benton was arrested by the G-2. Released, he returned to America and joined the anti-Castro Cuban exiles. Sam Benton and Aurelio Sanchez Arrango started Cuban Relief Incorporated in 1962. By late 1962, the FBI investigated Sam Benton's connection to INTERPEN/International Anti-Communist Brigade; in January 1963 he became the Subject of an investigation into illegal gambling by the FBI, due to his association with Mike McLaney. Miami Police investigated Cuban Relief Incorporated in March 1963 because the only exiles who received its benefits were members of Aurelio Sanchez Arrango's Triple-A. Cuban Relief had collected \$24,000 by mid-1963, on behalf of all Cuban refugees.

On **November 13, 1962**, MM T-1 stated that HEMMING and his followers were still eager to launch a military attack against Cuba and were in possession or some arms which included a Thompson sub-machinegun, rifles, and a case of dynamite. MM T-1 advised on November 14, 1962, that HEMMING had stated that his group would probably depart from the vicinity of Marathon, Florida and would defy U. S. Border Patrol and Customs agents if the Federal Government attempted to stop them from proceeding on this military expedition. HEMMING said his group would return fire on any Federal Government group that would try to stop including the United States Navy. Problems later developed, the boat was not used and the expedition was called off.

On **December 2, 1962**, MM T-1 advised that a thirty-five root Cries Craft motor boat named "Sally" had been rented in Miami on December 2, 1962, for use by HEMMING and his associates. MM T-1 said they had raised \$200.00 to put down as a deposit en the boat. They departed on that date from Mama en route to Marathon, Florida, where the boat was to be outfitted for a military expedition. MM T-1 advised on December 3, 1962, that HEMMING had purchased four 55-gallon drums which were to be taken along on the boat for reserve fuel. MM T-1 also reported that HEMMING had obtained an M-2 carbine, a Thompson sub-machinegun, four M-1 rifles, and a quantity of ammunition. He was also planning to steal a 20 mm. cannon which was in possession of an anti-CASTRO Cuban exile.

#### THE NO NAME KEY BUST - DECEMBER 4, 1962

U.S. Customs Agent Wallace Shanley had returned to the No Name Key camp in October 1962 and compiled a list of INTERPEN members. An FBI informant brought word: "INTERPEN plans to go to Cuba...to participate in guerrilla warfare and demolitions for a period of one to two weeks, and then steal any available boat and go to Cay Sal, Bahamas, where they can easily be rescued by the United States Coast Guard." The FBI: "MM-T1 HEMMING and 13 of his American associates, none of them Cubans, plan to leave Marathon, Florida, night of December 3, 1962, for military expedition against Cuba. On **December 3, 1962**, a FBI Letterhead Memorandum was generated about HEMMING, however it was still withheld. [FBI 2-1693-71]

LHM **December 3, 1962** Miami, Florida  
Re: INTERCONTINENTAL PENETRATION FORCES (INTERPEN)  
NEUTRALITY MATTERS

MM T-1, who has been involved in Cuban Revoutionary Activities for the past six years and who has furnished reliable information in the past, advised on **December 2, 1962**, that a 35 foot Chriscraft motor boat, "The Sally" was rented in Miami on December 2, 1962, for use by Gerald Patrick Hemming, and American adventurer and soldier of fortune. MM- T-1 explained that Hemming and his associates, about thirteen American mercenaries and adventurers had raised \$200 to put down on this boat as a deposit.

On the afternoon of **December 2, 1962** that boat left Miami en route to Marathon, Florida, where it will be tied up at Edward Germain's Docks, Marathon, Key, Florida, load and outfitted for a military expedition against Cuba.

After they land in Cuba they will split up into different groups, conduct commando raids and thereafter leave Cuba by stealing a Cuban fishing boat and go to Cay Sal, Bahamas, Islands, just north of Cuba. From there they plan to obtain transportation back to the United States. MM T-1

advised that Hemming planned to take automatic weapons on this military expedition and had already obtained on Thompson sub-machine gun.

On **December 4, 1962**, Miami U.S. Customs Agents Wallace Shanley and Cesar Diosdado arrested 13 INTERPEN members at No Name Key. The charges were: Conspiracy to violate the Neutrality Act and Possession of Arms, Ammunition and Implements of War and Conspiracy to Illegally Export Articles of War. Shanley would testify that Customs had been investigating the training camp for months. The raid netted HEMMING, Ronald Ponce De Leon, William Johnson Dempsey, William Houston Seymour, Edmund Kolby, James A. Lewis and Eleno Oviedo Alvares, HARGRAVES, Edwin A. Collins, Steve Justin Wilson, Lawrence Henry Howard, James Cavendish Garmen, and Remidio Arce.

HEMMING told this researcher in 1994:

Lewis died in 1970 on a treasure hunt at Eggemont Key, Tampa, Florida. He had discovered gold coins while doing underwater construction work. The stuff had no coral cover, and still glinted. They thought he stole someone's collection. The Internal Revenue Service got wind of the thing. Lewis got a re-breather, he went down by himself to get some coins, and he died.

Dom Bonafede wrote an account for the *Miami Herald* entitled "U.S. Nabs Anti-Castro Fighters - Why?" which read in part: "The existence of the group has been known for the last several months by Federal officials. But until their arrest, cadre members had not been interfered with by U.S. Agents. Cuban exile leaders speculated that the crackdown indicates a stiffened U.S. policy toward the anti-Castro resistance forces operating in Florida." [12.5.62] Miami Attorney Charles Ashmann secured the group's release. On December 4, 1962, Deputy Attorney General Nicholas Katzenbach called the FBI and asked whether "there was any CIA or other government involvement" with INTERPEN.

In September 1984 there was an interest by the HSCA in the December 5, 1962, arrests: A CIA Official Routing slip indicated the document went to C/SAB on December 6, 1962 and C/SD/Y on December 6, 1962. From Chief, Operational Support Division "Lets have SD-4 look into those arrested to determine if any connection with (deleted as of 2010)."

On **December 7, 1962**, (Deleted), CI Support Desk, OS/OSD/SD/4 generated this Memorandum for the Record the Subject of which was Cuban Underground Activities in Florida (Anti-Castro) #EE-29 229:

1. On December 6, 1962, discussed with Charles Matt TFW/PM regarding the 13 men seized in Florida. According to Deleted the Agency has no connection with the men who were arrested. He did say that the OO representative in Los Angeles had submitted a PHS on HEMMING. As far

as Task Force W was concerned they have had no contact with this group at all.

2. MATT was asked where the group would have gotten their support and funds. MATT stated that they obtained their money jumping from parachutes, 'passing the hat around,' writing bad checks, etc. (In a name check run in the W indices, a Colby (fnu) was reported in July 1962 as approaching a representative of Standard Oil Company of New Jersey for financial support for his underground group.

3. TILTON PA PROP / TFW stated on December 6, 1962, that there was no connection between this group and the Agency.

4. In a name check in the TF/W indices, there was only the attached information on GERALD PATRICK HEMMING and a Colby (fna) probably Edmund Colby [KOLBY]. All other names in the Washington Post article dated December 5, 1962 were 'no record.' Attachment, Indices check on HEMMING and Colby. [Document 60 from CIA file given HEMMING by CIA under FOIA]

On **December 11, 1962** the FBI in Puerto Rico generated a document "Junta Revolucionaria Cubana" (JURE) that concerned HEMMING.

[NARA 1993.07.30.15:08:21:090028]



In **January 1963** Charles Ashmann said the CIA and other government agencies were guilty of entrapment in HEMMING'S No Name Key bust. On January 8, 1963, the FBI reported: MM T-1 advised that although HEMMING claims to be anti-Communist, he is amoral, being for or against Communism depending on how it personally affects him; he is capable of anything and is motivated by a dream of future economic and political advantage and power in Latin America." [FBI Hq. 2-1693-76] On January 8, 1963, the FBI in Miami generated a document titled William J. Dempsey, aka Bill Internal Security - Cuba - Neutrality Matters. [FBI 2-312] A CIA representative discussed HEMMING'S case with U.S. Attorney Edith House on January 19, 1963. Edith House asked if HEMMING was connected with the CIA. The CIA representative expressed his conviction that HEMMING was not a KUBARK agent, but could possibly be in a position to identify CIA personnel, since HEMMING had come into contact with Lawrence J. La Borda. [CIA From: JM WAVE to TFW 10 1.19.63 ] The No Name Key charges were dismissed on January 22, 1963, because the Justice Department failed to go ahead with the prosecution.

**January, 22, 1963** issue of the "Miami Herald" contained an article captioned "Anti-Castro Trainees Freed; U. S. Doesn't Press Charges", which article related that Federal charges have been dropped "against 13 anti-Castroites arrested December 4th as they started to leave by boat for what Customs men believed was to be a hit-and-run attack

on Cuba. "U. S. District Judge David Dwyer dismissed the cases because the Internal Security Section of the Justice Department failed to go ahead with the prosecution." In October 1977 the FBI reclassified documents about the raid on No Name Key as "SECRET, Date of Automatic Declassification: Indefinite." [FBI 2-1693 Miami Report 12.3.62, p1 para 3,5] On January 23, 1963, MM T-1 advised that the Inter-Continental Penetration Forces (Interpen) organization of HEMMING had recently purchased seven carbines and 1,500 rounds of ammunition for a future military expedition. MM T-1 said that HEMMING was then in Tampa, Florida, and was expected to arrive in Miami on January 24, 1963. Interpen was reported to be using an office at 160 Southwest 16th Avenue, Miami, which MM T-1 described as actually an office of the John Birch Society. On January 22, 1963, *The Miami Herald* contained a press release from Steve Justin Wilson, INTERPEN member which noted the group was returning to their training camp at No Name Key, and would resume training and would take along their arsenal of rifles, pistols, bombs and grenades.

On **February 3, 1963**, HEMMING wrote this letter to Dick Billings of *Life Magazine*:

"Dear Dick: We have been very busy here in Florida since arriving two weeks ago. We hit just about every newspaper between L.A. and Miami on the trip. Did interviews with most of them. Did T.V. interview in Dallas for two days. Spent time with General Edwin Walker both those days. Appears he plans to involve his element in the Cuban fight. Contacted the raider groups i.e. Alpha-66, DRE, Cardenas raiders, Major Vidal's raiders...We have completed the following: The DRE group is set for their first lecture in Denver...The DRE group leaders are extremely interested in showing their films and slides, stills, etc. in Texas and California. The only obstacle to their tour of lectures is lack of airplane tickets and funds for food, hotel, etc...The DRE maintains a teletype machine in the HQ, Miami, (UPI) so if you want to communicate on anything routine for me, then check with a buddy in one of the wire services. The Alpha 66 group and new Committee of Rebel Officers are available for lectures. They have English speaking members with real interesting backgrounds. Andrew St. George did a story did a story on them in *Life Magazine* last December...Major Felipe Vidal, who speaks English, is available. He has done 23 missions in the last year...Enclosed find one handout issued by the new Revolutionary 'Elmer Gantry,' one Alexander Rorke, Jr. A phony...Rorke put the bad mouth on our group last month to Ruby Hart Philipps of the *New York Times*. This has been rectified. He is presently on tour throughout the East coast, prior to our witnessing his two hour revolutionary 'MacBeth' act in West Palm Beach last week, he had been claiming to have flown 'AIR COVER' for the DRE boys on their raid to Havana last summer. We took two of the leaders of that raid to his act, and he got a little a shook when he recognized them walking in on the middle of act #2. The DRE states that it met Rorke only once last year, and that was when Rorke showed up in Miami and asked them to 'loan' him some guns. Last December, on our arrest by Customs, there was

present one Remigio Arce, 'Cucu,' who had captained Rorke's boat, the Violin III, on a run to Cuba. 'Cucu' got messed up by some of Rorke's orders on the run and ended up out of fuel about 20 miles off the North Coast of Matanzas Province. 'Cucu' called on a radiotelephone to a relative's house and asked for a fuel drop. We were asked for assistance by the relative. I called that night on the telephone via Miami Marine Operator and talked to 'Cucu,' and then to Rorke. He had already called for the U.S. Coast Guard for help (100 gallons gas). I advised him that we could have a boat rendezvous with him in about four to six hours if he would not want to jettison his illegal cargo. A few minutes passed and he stated that he had the Coast Guard in contact and would go ahead and refuel from them. It seems that the other American disagreed with this decision and they engaged a very seasick Rorke in a lengthy argument that continued all the way back to Key West. The other Americans were students that Rorke had conned into financing, and they were determined to go all the way to the island, which Rorke had no intentions from the beginning of doing. This Rorke has already been on a large number of aborted expeditions. He is the same Rorke that had an F8F Bearcat Navy Fighter confiscated in Fort Lauderdale three months back, after stupidly bringing it right under the noses of the Customs people. This way he looks like a hard-charging commando with out ever sticking his lily white neck out. After arrival at Key West the argument continued in a restaurant outside of the Boca Chica Naval Air Station. The students then had one of their smallest take on six foot two inch Rorke, and he proceeded to throw Rorke all over the terrain, breaking three ribs in the process. You will notice where Rorke claims that a 55 gallon oil drum fell on him during a storm with on a 'dangerous' mission to Cuba. Other claims to fame that are interesting:

1. That he works with Major Nino Diaz. Nino wants to break his head.
2. His build up of phony FIORINI is a riot. FRANK don't love him no more cause 'Fat Daddy' ain't getting his cut any more.
3. 'Underground Chief' Tico Herrera is sitting about ten feet from me now and he has never heard of Rorke, but would like to talk it over though.
4. He was not the first reporter imprisoned by Castro, he was arrested by Rafael Hugett, II Front Escambray, at Major William Morgan's house at 66th & 7th Avenue, Havana, August 7, 1959. I was there dad. He has been claiming to be Morgan's buddy recently, what a laugh. Morgan would have blasted him if given the chance. I did an operation with Ralph Hugett to Cuba in August 1961.
5. If he is a 35 year old World War II veteran, then he was a 17 year old teenage German provincial commander that captured mucho SS men.

6. FIORINI was never a member of Edson's Raiders, according to the service record book, the Raider Association etc...

7. Major Pedro Diaz Lanz is a crook, thief, swindler, traitor to his country. He was not the first chief of the FAR. The first was Captain Evans Rosales Bressler, released last month from Havana's La Cabana Fortress Prison sick with TB (he refused to fly against the invaders during April 1961). The 2nd Chief of the FAR was Captain Orestes Del Rio, who was my C.O. in the FAR at San Julian Air base. The third Chief of the FAR was Captain Enrique Molina Rivera, who is sitting in the next room tonight...

On **February 7, 1963**, the FBI generated a report on "Wallace H. Welch, HEMMING and Lorenzo Hall, Dallas, Texas." HEMMING told this researcher: "I was in Baltimore, Maryland, on **February 7, 1963**." The Retail Merchant's Credit Association of Fort Worth stated that the FBI inquired about OSWALD on **February 7, 1963**. FBI 2-1693-77 concerned HEMMING'S activities and was dated **February 19, 1963**. It was all withheld.

#### HEMMING'S LETTER TO GENERAL DEMOTTE

On February 12, 1963 HEMMING wrote a letter to General C.V. Clifton, Military Aide to the President, the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. In this letter, HEMMING gave General Clifton a synopsis of this background in the Marines, then stated:

While attending the U.S. Navy Academy Prep School I became interested in the Cuban situation and upon graduation I decided to separate from the service and travel to Cuba. I received my Honorable Discharge at the U.S. Naval Academy in October 1958.

The FBI reported that in **May 1963** HEMMING and Loran Hall traveled to Dallas, where they considered setting up a training camp. Wiley G. Yates stated:

In **May or June of 1963** Wally Welch once more called me at work. This time he told me that Loran Hall was in Dallas and that he wanted me to meet Hall. I agreed to meet Hall outside my place of employment when I finished work for the day and I did so...Hall did not have a place to stay in Dallas so I suggested that he stay at my house which he decided to do. He told me and my wife that he was in Dallas to help raise money to finance the purchase of arms and equipment for a proposed invasion of Cuba by a group of exiles who were then training in Cuba, namely Big Pine Key and No Name Key. PATRICK, who was mentioned to me before by Mr. Welch, was assisting in training of this group...Hall spoke fluent Spanish and was supposed to be a personal friend of the Cuban leader Manolo Reyes. During the time he stayed in our home Hall made a great show of writing Ray about activities then underway in Dallas, but he never made any attempt to mail this letter, and still had it in his possession when

he left two or three weeks later...My wife and I began to be suspicious of Hall because he made so little effort to carry through on the things that he said he was going to do. He seemed to be more interested in watching T.V. and getting free meals than in securing financial backing for the Cubans. Finally I told him I wanted some proof of his activities or else I wanted him to leave. He offered no proof and without the least argument, packed his few belongings and left." [ltr. Yates to Garrison 4.28.67]

On **May 10, 1963** the FBI in Miami generated a report on INTERPEN. In **June 1963**, HEMMING and about four of his men visited Carlos Zarraga Martinez, a Cuban exile who maintained a large supply of arms at his residence. HEMMING and his men pulled out guns and threatened Zarraga's life if he did not give them these arms. Zarraga turned over these arms and HEMMING left the house momentarily. While he was gone U.S. Customs agents arrived, confiscated the arms, and arrested HEMMING's men.

Date: **June 21, 1963**

To: Deputy Commissioner Division of Investigations and Enforcement Bureau of Customs

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director  
Subject: INTERCONTINENTAL PENETRATION FORCE  
(INTERPEN) INTERNAL SECURITY CUBA NEUTRALITY MATTERS

Reference is made to previous information furnished concerning the captioned organization. On the evening of June 18, 1963, an informant who has furnished reliable information in the past advised as follows:

One Richard Lockley (phonetic) (Lauchli) of Collinswood, Illinois, driving a late model station wagon, was in Miami, Florida with a load of miscellaneous automatic weapons some of which he had reportedly sold to the Second National Front of Escambray and Commandos L. anti-Castro organizations, and to Joe Garman of the captioned organization. Lauchli has been taken around Miami by Frank Anthony Sturgis, also known as Frank Fiorini, and Gerald Patrick Hemming, American adventurers.

One Marino, an American residing in Hialeah, Florida, reportedly has a large quantity of arms in his home which he has tried to sell to Hemming. Hemming and about four other Interpen members planned to meet Marino on June 18, 1963 on pretext of purchasing the arms and then rob him of the weapons, Marino, however, did not keep the appointment. Reportedly an armed robbery of Morino's house was scheduled for June 19, 1963 by Hemming, Lauchli and the four Interpen members. Lauchli claimed that he would bring along a machine gun which he would use if the police were encountered in this undertaking.

The Bureau of Customs in Miami was furnished the foregoing information. Inquiry by our Springfield Office indicates the license on the station being driven by Lauchli was issued to Rich Albert Lauchli, Collinsville, Illinois. Information available to our Springfield Office indicates that Lauchli is a gun collector who has previously been investigated by the Alcohol, Tobacco Tax Division for illegal possession of automatic weapons. Lauchli was convicted in connection with the theft of 23 rocket launchers from the Jefferson Proving Grounds, Madison, Indiana, in March 1959. In 1959 Lauchli made an unsuccessful attempt to organize an internal security force that would serve as a last ditch resistance in the event of an enemy invasion of the United States. In 1961 and 1962 Lauchli was active as Regional Director of the Minutemen, an anti-communist guerilla warfare movement in the United States. Lauchli was arrested by local authorities in October 1961 for the illegal possession of automatic weapon during a Minutemen training session. Lauchli was born January 23, 1926 in Saint Louis, Missouri, and served as a paratrooper in the United States Army from March 1945 to October 9, 1946.

On June 20, 1963 Customs in Miami advised that arrests had been made in this matter and that weapons were confiscated. Roy Hargraves, Joe Garman, Mike Marino one Wilson and another individual were among those arrested. Hemming was not in the area when the arrests were made and Customs contemplates no action against him.

Deputy Commissioner  
Division of Investigations and Enforcement, Bureau of Customs  
1. Director CIA Att: Deputy Director, Plans  
1. Assistant Chief of Staff for Intelligence Department of the Army  
Attention Chief Security Division  
1- Office of Special Investigations Air Force  
Attention Chief Counterintelligence Division  
1 - Director of Naval Intelligence  
1 – Chief Counterintelligence Group, Defense Intelligence Agency The  
Pentagon  
1 – Mr. Dwight E. Avis, Director Alcohol Tobacco Tax Division IRS  
1. The Commissioner INS  
1. J. Walter Yeagley Assistant Attorney General

FBI Agent Robert Dwyer reported that in **June 1963** HEMMING met Michael Roland Marino,

...an American who has dealt with the Cubans before on arms sales. Mike Marino had a small quantity of arms and HEMMING planned to rob them. HEMMING devised a plan, and on June 19, 1963, met with Marino at a diner in Miami and negotiated an arms purchase. Mike Marino took four of HEMMING'S men to a Cuban's residence to show a .50 caliber machine

gun offered for sale. HEMMING and another man later arrived at the residence, where HEMMING and his men drew their guns on Mike Marino and the Cuban living there and robbed them of uniforms, ammunition magazines, miscellaneous types of guns and the .50 caliber machine gun. Then HEMMING changed his mind and gave all this equipment back to the Cuban, Carlos Zarraca. HEMMING'S men took Mike Marino to Mike Morino's house to rob him, and HEMMING was to meet them there later. HEMMING lost contact with his group, and then found out that U.S. Customs agents had just raided Carlos Zarracha's house, confiscated all the arms, and had arrested Mike Marino and four of his abductors. On June 20, 1963, United States Customs Agents advised they confiscated a .37 mm anti-tank gun, a .20 mm cannon, a rifle, 300 rounds of ammunition and miscellaneous military equipment. Incidental to this raid, the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Unit that day seized a 1963 Ford Falcon automobile, seven rifles, a .20 mm gun mount, some pistols, miscellaneous equipment and several hundred rounds of ammunition. Mr. Wallace Shanley, advised ROY HARGRAVES, Joe Garman, Justin Wilson, Michael Marino and Richard Whatley were arrested for possession of a machine gun.

The defendants were represented by Charles Ashmann and Robert Rust. [FBI 2-1693-95; USDC Miami 63-404-Cr-CF]

On September 30, 1963, the SAC of the Miami FBI office sent a LHM, which was highly deleted, to FBI Headquarters regarding HEMMING:

On September 13, 1963, Wallace Shanley, U.S. Customs, Miami, advised that Richard Whatley was one of the five arrested on June 20, 1963, by U.S. Customs, and charged with being in possession of a machine gun. This incident was a matter involving HEMMING'S plans to rob Mike Marino of weapons reportedly stored in Hialeah. At the time of his arrest, (deleted) but his fingerprints reflected his true identity and that he was also wanted as a parole violator from some other state. He was unable to make bond and the judge ordered a sanity hearing being given to Whatley. On September 9, 1963, he went to trial at U.S. District Court, Miami, and on September 10, 1963, he was found not guilty. (Deleted) advised that the other four individuals are scheduled for trial on October 22, 1963. These individuals are presently out on bond.

When Marino's wife and children returned home unexpectedly HEMMING postponed the robbery. HEMMING told this researcher: "That's the Mike Marino caper. Customs and ATF snitches had conned Richard Lauchli out of a bunch of arms." HEMMING stated that Steve Justin Wilson died in 1986. The prosecution dropped the charges against Richard Whatley, and in October 1963, the case against the other members was also dropped. On June 6, 1963, Carlos Prio Socarras said that he would sponsor a military camp, and that HEMMING would head it. Final arrangements were to be made 20 days hence. [HSCA OCR 6.21.78 Martin J. Daly]

## HEMMING: JULY 1963

HSCA Outside Contact Report June 21, 1978. Identifying Information: Name Whatley, Richard (FBI File Review). Summary of contact: "The file on the above Subject, listed under the following numbers: 109-584; Section 61, serials 3739-3781, 3742 ep 23 was reviewed by the undersigned. The report dated September 30, 1963, and is titled INTERPEN. A confidential source MMT-1 indicates that HEMMING visited on June 6, 1963, Carlos Prio Socarras at 5070 Alton Road, Miami Beach, Florida. Prio stated that he would sponsor a military training camp and that HEMMING would head it. Final details of the arrangements were to be made 20 days hence. On July 11, 1963, MM T-1 advised that HEMMING left Miami on July 3, 1963, and arrived in Dallas on July 4, 1963, where he conferred with General Edwin A. Walker who would not back any specific cause as he wanted to remain free to fight communism all over the United States. Following this meeting HEMMING then met with Lester Logue, geologist and oil man at the firm's office, 628 Meadows Building, Dallas, Texas. Logue told him that he had a (6-8) six to eight man group which is interested in fighting against communism but that he, Logue, could not participate as he couldn't afford to offend U.S. Government officials. Logue further states that he was working with a major in the United States Army Reserve, both of whom were do for future promotion and that shortly they would be attending an intelligence briefing in Washington, D.C. and that when they returned and briefed Logue they would then be in a position to help HEMMING in some way. Logue said that he would visit Miami, Florida, in about 10 days and set up an intelligence unit, send some men to handle the funds and also personally see some people about donating boats to HEMMING'S anti-Castro movement in Miami. Martin J. Daly.

On January 26, 1996, HEMMING was asked by this researcher, "Who was with you when you visited Prio, General Walker and Lester Logue?" He answered, "Howard Kenneth Davis." Howard K. Davis related: "I think I probably talked to O'Conner once or twice, or maybe three times. Now Ed Kolby knew him very well."

MM T-1 advised on July 11, 1963, that HEMMING had left Miami, Florida on July 3, 1963, and arrived the following day at Dallas, Texas, where he conferred with EDWIN A. WALKER, former Major General in the United States Army. According to MM T-1, WALKER told HEMMING he did not want to participate in Cuban affairs because he did not want to back any specific cause, but rather would be available to fight communism all over the United States. MM T-1 advised that HEMMING said he had also conferred with LESTER R. LOGUE, 629 Meadows Texas, a wealthy oil man, who told HEMMING that he had a six to eight-man group which was interested in fighting against communism. LOGUE said he could not

participate with HEMMING at that time, for fear of offending United States Government officials, and thereafter HEMMING returned to Miami, Florida.

Loran Hall described a meeting he witnessed between General Walker and HEMMING:

They talked about INTERPEN. And he gave Walker a book, about this thick, that had the background of INTERPEN and how it would be set up and what their functions would be and it would be like the SOP and MOP and the whole bit for the INTERPEN. And he gave that to Walker and they talked about what it would take to set up an organization like this, that it couldn't be done in this country, but that it could be done in Latin America. And Walker says, 'You're doing a good job, keep it up, but the government is going to try to nail your butt' and all this stuff. And we left. [Garrison interview with Hall 5.8.68]

Loran Hall stated that when he visited Niko Crespi in July 1963, in Dallas, he was told that OSWALD was going to give a pro-Castro talk. Niko Crespi was one of the first rebels from the Sierra Maestre to defect to the United States. HEMMING knew him in Cuba. HEMMING told this researcher: "Is there any indication that OSWALD ever did anything pro-Castro in Dallas? You think the fucking White Russians would have put up with that bullshit?" HEMMING visited Dallas again in July 1963. He wrote Lester Logue on August 13, 1963, that "Luis Somoza visited Miami three weeks ago...Davy and I were in Dallas at the time of Somoza's visit to Miami." That would place HEMMING in Dallas on or about July 21, 1963. When HEMMING visited Dallas in July 1963, he "met with individuals threatening Kennedy's life." HEMMING elaborated,

We'd begun to encounter more and more organizations of people in different cities with one thing on their mind, initially taking care of Castro, then doing something about the other 'problem' - that guy in the White House. These offers were made by organized elements that had financial backing within the United States.

In **July 1963** federal and county officers invaded the No Name Key training camp in answer to a complaint from local residents, but HEMMING and the INTERPEN crew were not to be found. HEMMING told this researcher: "We did not use No Name Key in 1963. LARRY HOWARD took Loran Hall and William Seymour down there in 1963. That's the only time any one was on the Key. It was shut down after the bust." In **July 1963** the FBI believed HEMMING was "involved in a plot to exfiltrate several alleged Soviet missile technicians from Cuba" known as OPERATION RED CROSS which was directed by JOHN V. MARTINO.

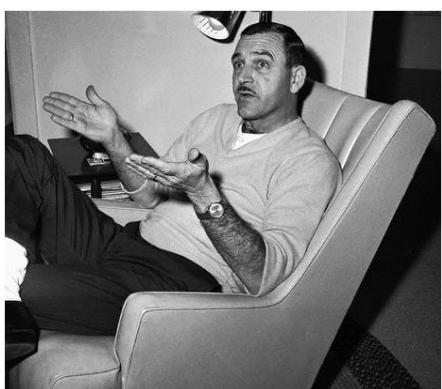
On **August 6, 1963**, MM T-1 advised that FRANK NELSON, an American adventurer from New York City who has been connected with Cuban and Dominican Republic (DR) revolutionary activities in the past, had recently visited Miami and conferred with HEMMING. NELSON claimed he was

representing a friend, who was interested in buying PT-boats for shipment to some country in Africa. NELSON and HEMMING visited boatyards in the Miami area.

**Circa August 1963** Loran Hall visited Frank Bartes and Lawrence J. La Borde in New Orleans. [Interview with Loran Hall 12.67 trans. by Lifton; Loran Hall/Weisberg interview NYT 4.22.59; Baltimore Sun 6.77; Village Voice 10.30.77; L.A. Free Press 1.12.68; Citizen Comm. Of Inq. Steve Burton Report on LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD; National Enq. 9.1.68; Ltr. Yates to Garrison 6.28.68; Ltr. Duncan to Winslow 9.13.74; WCD 1546 p211]

In **September 1963** INTERPEN allegedly no longer existed. HEMMING's followers lost interest and felt HEMMING would never be able to launch any military action against Cuba. The majority of the recruits left Miami, others were run out of town by the police, and others were arrested for burglary, larceny and vagrancy. During this time HEMMING visited leading Cuba exile political figures and a number of American rightwing Conservatives asking for donations. He traveled to Dallas, Texas, Chicago, Illinois and other places but was unable to raise money.

On **September 17, 1963**, MM T-1 reported that HEMMING had had no further contact with LESTER LOGUE since HEMMING'S visit to Dallas, Texas in early July of 1963. MM T-1 said that HEMMING was still occupied in making plans for training camps, arms purchases and invasions of Cuba. MM T-1 advised on September 24, 1963, that HEMMING had returned to Miami from a trip to Chicago, Illinois on September 22, 1963. While in Chicago, HEMMING said he conferred with a Chicago attorney named CONSTANTINE KANGLES, who previously had connections with Cuban revolutionaries. MM T-1 said that KANGLES and HEMMING talked about the possibility of negotiating with the Government of Cuba for the release of prisoners.



On **September 2, 1963**, Loran Hall was arrested for violations of the Neutrality Act at Key Largo, Florida. Upon his release, Loran Hall visited the offices of the Cuban Revolutionary Council in Miami and protested his arrest. HEMMING told this researcher: "There was no Cuban Revolutionary Council office anymore. They didn't pay the rent. They're off the payroll in 1963." Loran Hall flew to Los Angeles on **September 4, 1963**. On **September 11, 1963**, he was joined in Los Angeles by LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD and Celio Castro, who had driven in together from Miami. HEMMING

1994: "Celio was 71 at the time. He had a bad leg from the Machado revolution. He acted like he was 40. He was a stoned cold motherfucker." National States Rights Party member Stanley Drennan donated medical equipment and arms to Loran Hall for use

against Castro. [Garrison interview with Hall 5.6.68] When Loran Hall, LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD and Celio Castro left Los Angeles for Dallas around September 18, 1963, they stopped at the offices of Private Investigator and soldier-of-fortune Dick Hathcock. The FBI:

To: SAC Los Angeles (89-75)  
From S.A. Jerome K. Crowe  
Date November 23, 1963.  
Subject: Assassination of President Kennedy.  
Re: Memo of Robert H. Matheson, Jr. dated November 23, 1963.

Richard Hathcock, Allied International Detectives, Suite 310, 6605 Hollywood Blvd. Los Angeles, advised Roy Payne is his associate in the above enterprise. Hathcock advised as follows: He, Hathcock, has known one Dick Whatley for several years. Whatley, to the best of Hathcock's information, currently resides at 3350 NW 18th Terrace Miami, Florida., Whatley is a male Caucasian.

Prior to Hathcock's present occupation, he was the proprietor of Adventurers Corner, a shop at the corner of Sunset and La Brea, which sold articles from all over the world, and was an unofficial gathering place for adventurers in this area.

Shortly after the Bay of Pigs invasion in Cuba, Whatley, who Hathcock had not seen for some time, came into the Adventurers Corner and gave Hathcock a shoulder patch that had a skull and crossbones on it plus the words 'Brigada Internationale.' Whatley told Hathcock that he had been in Guatemala instructing troops down there, and that he had pulled out a week or two prior to the Bay of Pigs invasion, and hadn't participated in the invasion. Hathcock did not see Whatley again until about 7 or 8 months ago when he came to Hathcock's office with two other men, all three of whom were wearing green fatigues and one of the men was wearing a 'Mohawk' hair cut. The men were interested in getting into the wild animal business, and asked Hathcock where they could get some wild animals.

Approximately one year ago, JERRY PATRICK, whose true name is JERRY HEMMING, a male Caucasian, approximately 30 to 31, 6' 4", 230 pounds, well built, curly brown hair, handsome, and Lorenzo Pascillo, aka Lorenzo Hall and Skip Hall, a male Caucasian, 35 to 40 years old, 5' 11", 175 to 180 pounds, black hair, mustache, ruddy complexion from Wichita, Kansas, came into Hathcock's office which was then located at 6715 Hollywood Blvd. stating that they were broke and that they knew Dick Whatley, and Whatley had sent them to him. They had with them a set of golf clubs, and a 30-06 Johnson semi-automatic with a Bushnell, variable

powered scope. Hathcock loaned them \$100 - \$50 on each item and it was his understanding that they were to pick up the articles as soon as possible. Hathcock only saw JERRY PATRICK once after that and that was approximately one week later when he came to his office.

Several months ago, since the men did not retrieve the articles, Hathcock sold the golf clubs. On **September 18, 1963**, Lorenzo Hall came in with \$50 and retrieved the rifle. Shortly thereafter Hathcock received a telephone call from JERRY PATRICK, who was then residing at 2450 N.W. North River Drive, Miami, Florida, inquiring as to whether Hathcock still had the rifle. Hathcock told him he had given the rifle to Hall for \$50 and this seemed to irritate PATRICK to some extent. Since then Hathcock has sent the receipt he received from Hall for the \$50 to PATRICK to convince him he had returned the rifle.

On the day Hall retrieved the rifle, he sold him a Bolex Motion Picture Camera with telephoto lens which was then the property of Hathcock. Hall paid by two checks - one drawn on the Citizen's Bank on the account of the Committee to Free Cuba in the amount of \$350 and another in the amount of \$150 on the account of a resident of La Habra. Hathcock gave Hall back \$100.

Hathcock advised that PATRICK and Hall are violently anti-Communist and anti-Castro and they both told him they fought in the mountains with Castro in Cuba, however, fell out with him after the revolution. Lorenzo told Hathcock he spent seven months in prison in Cuba, however, he eventually got back to the United States. PATRICK stated he fell out with Castro and eventually got back to the United States.(Hathcock has Xerox copies of newspaper articles from Florida in his office concerning the anti-Castro troops training there and PATRICK'S picture appears as one of the anti-Castro troops).

PATRICK, when in Los Angeles, had an address of 1209 South Atlantic, Alhambra, California, (Atlantic Radio and TV) and an address in care of Howard K. Davis in Miami. It is Hathcock's information that Davis was Castro's personal pilot, and a close friend of Dick Whatley. Lorenzo Hall now resides at 1191 College View Drive, Monterey Park, California, and Hathcock does not know where he is now employed. He last saw Hall about two weeks ago when he came by Hathcock's office to simply talk. Hathcock reiterated that both men are anti-Communist and very strongly anti-Castro.

On March 9, 1977, Hathcock recalled:

About two months before the John Kennedy assassination in Dallas, two men came to see me in my office. One was GERRY PATRICK HEMMING

who was using the name JERRY PATRICK. The other man was Lorenzo Hall, who liked to be called Skip Hall, whose real name was Pacillio, which I understand is a Cuban name. These men came to see me one afternoon, stating that they had heard of me because of my many years of undercover investigation of communism on the state college campuses here, when I worked for the Hearst chain, and some other activities, anti-Communist activities I had been involved in. They were here, they told me, to raise money with which to buy medicines and equipment, military hardware for a planned invasion of Cuba. That they were going to train troops in Guatemala, which they actually did later. They told me that they were dead broke, and that they were going to be here for two or three weeks, they had some other contacts they wanted to see, raise money, but meantime they needed \$100. They wanted to borrow the \$100 and what they had for security was a set of golf clubs and a rifle which was a 30 caliber Johnson, modified to semi-automatic operation, which I believed held nine rounds, and was also equipped with a Bushnell, variable scope. I gave them the \$100 and they left the golf clubs and rifle. For several weeks after that, I saw both men frequently, then my understanding was that JERRY PATRICK returned to Miami to set things in operation down there for the planned invasion of Cuba. What they had planned essentially was to blow up some oil storage tanks on the west coast. Lorenzo Hall stayed here, and was in the private eye office very often, almost every day. He told me that both he and PATRICK had originally been in Castro's Army when they believed that he was trying to free Cuba from Batista, found out he was a communist, had no interest in the people, and they turned on Castro with the result with the result that both were imprisoned, and sentenced to be shot. Both, through manipulations and through friends, managed to escape and get to this country. They showed me lots of photos, gave me documents and I do believe they told me about those things. Eventually, as I say, PATRICK went back to Miami and I did not see him after that. Shortly before the assassination, if memory serves me correctly, it was no more than ten days before the assassination, Skip Hall and a big, fat Mexican man whom I'd never seen before, and whose name I don't recall at this time, but I'm sure the FBI has it, came to see me, told me they were going to Dallas to pick up some medicines and some other material, they wanted to redeem the rifle. They gave me \$50, told me to keep the golf clubs, I got a note signed by Skip Hall that he had picked-up the rifle, which I later gave to Jerry Crowe of the FBI...Skip Hall later told me he had turned the rifle over to a doctor friend of his in Miami, Florida. JERRY PATRICK told me later that was a damn lie, that he had talked to Hall, and as far as he could find out that was a lie about where the rifle was. But he told me he had never recovered the rifle. The rifle was in my office all those weeks, and one of the gentlemen who worked with me in the detective business, Roy Payne, who is a gun expert and gun nut assembled and disassembled and reassembled that rifle on numerous occasions. And I'm sure Mr. Payne

can tell you a great deal more about that rifle then I can. The day after John Kennedy was killed in Dallas, I received a phone call from Jerry Crowe, an FBI agent here in Los Angeles, who asked me if I had an agent working for me who was named Roy Payne and I said yes. Jerry wanted to know if he could come by the office and see me and Mr. Payne, and we arranged for that meeting. It's my opinion that the reason he wanted to see Mr. Payne was because Payne's fingerprints undoubtedly were all over that rifle from his having handled it so many time. It's also my opinion that, unless that particular rifle had been found or in some way involved in the whole thing, that the FBI would have no interest in it...My name is LeRoy Barton Payne. I have heard and have listened to Mr. Hathcock make his statement and I agree with him in every aspect of his statement and I will, to the best of my recollection, account my experiences with JERRY PATRICK and Lorenzo Hall...They were here on a speaking and fund raising campaign for going back to Cuba, and, as I remember, they were out gathering various types of military accouterments, weapons, medicines. How they obtained these weapons was not part of the information given to Mr. Hathcock or myself. Lorenzo Hall did tell me that he had his closet in his apartment full of weapons, and that he was afraid the FBI was going to come in there and raid the place and take him along, and they were going to have to smuggle them out, and that they were getting ready to go back to Cuba. He drew us a map of an inlet on the shore south of Havana, or near Havana, that was the oil storage reservoir and tank farm. It showed on this map the tank farm and several storage docks, and what they had planned on doing was taking a boat to Kingston, Jamaica, refueling, and then going in as frogmen to take satchel charges of plastic explosives and set them on the storage tank farm and the dock area and destroy this to cripple Cuba by getting rid of all the fuel, oil, gasoline etc. that was presently stored for Castro. About I would say, ten days, 15 days, maybe a month, somewhere along in there, prior to present Kennedy's assassination, here I am fuzzy on the exact period. But Lorenzo Hall and a fat Mexican fellow come and redeemed the rifle. Now this rifle I had been told that it would, it had gone on several Cuban raids in the past, and knowing that it is very easy to modify a weapon such as this to make it full automatic, and that it did have nine rounds in the chamber, nine rounds in the weapon and one in the chamber, making it ten rounds that could be fired automatically, I took the weapon and test fired it, and then pulled it apart to make sure it had not been tampered with. It had not and was a straight semi-automatic weapon. It was a Johnson semi-automatic 30.06, it had a 30 power variable Bushnell scope, very much like a telephoto lens on a camera. I would say that this weapon, properly sighted in would put a hole in a dime at 500 yards. The bullets would be fired as fast as one could pull the trigger. Ten seconds, ten rounds or less. They picked this weapon up, and signed a note that they had picked it up, as I was present in the office when these two gentlemen were there to pick the weapon up. Approximately the next day or two, they

left for Miami, and I made the statement to his Lorenzo Hall, well, that we'll be reading about you in the paper. Well, Dick and I went about our business as normal as far as the Agency was concerned and didn't really think about them except to say, well, we hadn't heard anything. Five days prior to the assassination of President Kennedy Mr. Hall was in Hollywood, California, in front of our building, talking with Mr. Hathcock and I stopped and talked to them, and of course I said, well, why don't you come over and let's get a cup of coffee and tell us what happened, and he says, well no, I've got to make the plane for Dallas. The situation with Mr. Hall is that he stated to me when I asked him, well, you know, what happened during the situation, we didn't hear anything. He said that the CIA confiscated and arrested everybody at the boat in Miami, and I asked him at that time why he didn't get himself arrested also, and he said, well, he was on the dock and could not be connected with the situation. They didn't have any evidence against him. I'm going to make an assumption now, or a relatively educated assumption.

On November 23, 1963, S.A. Crowe interviewed Payne, who subsequently reported:

Mr. Crowe came in and I opened the door for him and he showed me his identification, he had a big bundle of papers with him in a large manila envelope...he put his bundle down on the chair in front of the desk and took some papers out and said, 'I would like to ask some questions about Skip Hall and Roy Payne,' and I said, well, 'I'm Roy Payne, why don't you ask me whatever you want to ask.' He seemed rather surprised I was there. At least that was the impression I got. We discussed the situation about what had occurred and what has gone on with GERRY PATRICK HEMMING and SKIP HALL, then I did not see him for some time after that. I did however find that the FBI, or someone, was, I can only make the assumption, following me, and did tail me for some months after that. I had a brother-in-law who was, and I am not correct with this, he is deceased now, and his name was Harvey Berkey, who was assistant agent in charge of the local field office for the FBI here. In asking, or making an attempt to ask Harvey what the heck was going on, Harvey refused to talk to me, and I could not gain entrance to his house, he would not answer the door, nor did his wife and children. There was one occasion, I did run into Harvey Berkey outside of my office with Mr. Hathcock, and he did not want to talk to me at all and excused himself and said he had to go. I did, within a week after the President's assassination have occasion to go to Palm Springs, I believe it was on a Thursday, and I stayed in a small motel upon entering in the town and about 3:00 a.m., I had occasion to see two gentlemen go through my vehicle pretty thoroughly, and they had keys to enter and to go through the car, they went through the glove compartment, I had evidence prior to that my vehicle had been entered and searched, as our offices, which had been moved...We had suite 310, which covered several rooms, and we did have

a system to show if our offices had been entered, such as, seeing as we had the only keys, and our offices had been entered and the files had been searched several times. We feel, or I felt, that our telephone, both at home and the answering service for the office, had been tapped. This went on for several months. The next night, Saturday, after the assassination, I had to drive to Santa Maria, and was there overnight. There were three vehicles that followed my car up Pacific Coast Highway, all the way up to Santa Maria, and then again picked me up the next day when I went through several of the small towns in the rural area, and up to Highway 99, which is now I-5, and then coming back to the ridge root. The same Subject vehicles that had followed me the next day after the assassination were the same vehicles that I saw in Palm Springs for the, a week later, along with the same gentlemen that were in them. Like I say, this went on for quite some time, two to three months after the assassination. One afternoon, about ten days or two weeks after the assassination, I received a telephone call at the office from Lorenzo Hall. I said, 'Hey buddy, you better have a lot of witnesses, because you were in Dallas at the time of the assassination,' and he said 'I've got witnesses to prove I was right in the middle of the lobby of the Hilton Hotel, and a hundred people know I was there, and I was nowhere near where Kennedy was assassinated.' I have never heard from again the Lorenzo Hall. I did, on one occasion, go and drive out to visit with JERRY PATRICK HEMMING, who was living in Monterey Park. He discussed with me, at the time, turning over the rifle to them, and he didn't like the idea that the rifle went down there, since he felt it was his rifle and the golf clubs that were also hocked at that time of the original meeting were Hall's, and that the rifle was his and other than that conversation. I have never had any further contact with HEMMING." [Baxter Ward Affidavits 3.9.77 to Cong. Dodd] Richard Hathcock told Kenneth D. Klein that Loran Hall "came in and took the rifle, he was alone and said he was going to Dallas. [NARA HSCA 180-10102-10154 also see NARA FBI 124-10265-10288]

In 1978 HEMMING told this researcher:

It was my weapon. We were short of money at the time and I told Hathcock, I said you know, you come up with some money but I want to leave some security and I don't feel like taking my weapon and shit back to Miami anyway, so I'll leave some gear for you. He said 'You don't have to do that. I said I'll do it because it would be more secure because some asshole ripped me off for my records - Saul from that McDonald book. Saul conned my relatives out of a lot of weapons. I trusted him, Dick Hathcock was on the Company [CIA] payroll anyway and he was anxious to know what was happening and all that shit so it was an entré - you just don't walk into somebody's door. It's always good to get in their debt a little bit - it's a technique - it allays their suspicions...Hathcock was into all the

mob, Rosselli, Hollywood stars bullshit, and then he went to work for Channel Seven News, then for the guy that's county supervisor now, Baxter Ward. Roy Payne used to work for Hathcock. I met Roy Payne in the middle of the night in Santa Monica in 1967 and he was shitting all over himself. He says, 'They're either gonna get you or get me, or they're gonna get both of us? I don't know why.' I said: 'Who's your girlfriend Roy?' 'Maria Cellini.' That's Dino Cellini's sister. That's why they are going to kill you. They think you know too much about Dallas. You got the wrong girlfriend, kid. Go to Mexico.

HEMMING stated in 1994:

The gun was not in pawn. It was in Dick Hathcock's private possession. The excuse to get the weapons out of the car, was to leave them with Hathcock, for a \$50 loan. I didn't want the weapons in the fucking car. We'd been busted at No Name Key. You can't carry weapons when you're under indictment. I didn't want to be set up on a weapons charge, so I had to make sure there was no goddamned weapons in the car.

HEMMING stated the Committee to Free Cuba was a private citizens group of which Representative John Rousselot was a member: "My uncle managed his campaign." Loran Hall stated that the Committee to Free Cuba was "headed up by Dr. - I don't remember his name now - anyway it was good guys that had Philbrick on the committee." [Misc. References: HUNT *Undercover* p141; 9.15.64 teletype from Dallas; USSS 100-10,461 3-P; WCD 1179; FBI Analysis of William Turner's 1.68 Ramparts article.] A CIA Memorandum for the Record, SUBJECT, Richard Hathcock, stated: "Information concerning the above Subject can be found in a report dated January 9, 1968, Subject, Loran Eugene Hall, and enclosure number 14, CI Staff, (regarding GERALD PATRICK HEMMING, Jr. of a Counterintelligence Staff memorandum dated August 7, 1967." [CIA 19733]

After Loran Hall redeemed HEMMING'S rifle from Dick Hathcock on **September 18, 1963**, Loran Hall, LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD and Celio Sergio Castro drove to Dallas pulling a trailer load of weapons and medicine. They arrived in Dallas on September 28, 1963, and registered at the Lawnview Motel. On October 5, 1964, the FBI determined that Hall telephoned Lester Logue or his secretary, Gloria Kouthart. Loran Hall, LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD and Celio Sergio Castro visited Gloria Kouthart who HEMMING said would be helpful in fund raising. Wiley G. Yates of Dallas, Texas, reported:

In September 1963 Mr. Hall once more appeared at my home in Mesquite. My wife was quite surprised to see him since we had no contact with him since he left earlier in the summer and since he came during the day while I was at work and completely unannounced. This visit occurred during the week of **September 23, 1963**, to **September 28, 1963**...At this time Hall was accompanied by a large burly looking Latin American man. Both Hall

and the man who accompanied him had full beards. Hall said that he wanted to talk to me and would contact me. Hall called me at work and asked me to meet him at the Dallas motel where he was staying, which I agreed to do. I called Hall at the motel and told him that I would be at home that evening, and that he could come over if he wanted to see me. Later that evening he came to my home, accompanied by the large burly Latin-man of that afternoon, and other small Latin-American appearing man, who according to Hall, spoke no English. Both of his companions were as unkept in appearance as Hall and were supposedly Cuban exiles who were training for the Cuban invasion...I want to make it clear that none of these three men in any way resembled OSWALD...I do not think that it could have possibly been the same man that accompanied the other two men to the Odio apartment from the description that Mrs. Odio has given. Hall did not introduce his two companions except to identify them as Cuban exiles.

Loran Hall also telephoned Robert Morris from his motel room. HEMMING had suggested Loran Hall call Robert Morris for a donation. [FBI DL 100-10461 10.8.64 Richard J. Burnett] Loran Hall told Jim Garrison:

Q. Who took you to Robert Morris?

A. PATRICK. PATRICK knew right where to go. In fact he called him on the phone and we went right up there. And he says something about, well, would you like to meet General Walker, or something like this and PATRICK says yes, this is one of the fellows we want to see.

HEMMING 1994:

Loran Hall went there to get some money from Lester Logue. Hall was visiting people behind my back. LARRY HOWARD had a falling out with Hall about this. I didn't suggest Loran Hall call Robert Morris. He did it behind my back. I only introduced him to Logue, and here he is, a month later, contacting my Dallas people and knowing everything about them. Logue gets nervous. I told Logue, 'Give the son-of-a-bitch a few bucks, get rid of his ass, he may be working for the FBI trying to set us all up.' We'd been warned months before that Hoover was after our ass with a passion." Loran Hall, LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD and Celio Sergio Castro left their trailer load of arms in Dallas, and left by bus for Miami on October 4, 1963. From Miami Hall drove back to Dallas with William Houston Seymour to pick up the trailer load of arms and medicine he had left there. They arrived in Dallas on October 12, 1963, and checked into the same YMCA where OSWALD had stayed on October 3, 1963. Wiley Yates reported: "Sometime later, in October, Hall once more visited my home and pleaded with me to give him what supplies I might have. On this visit he was accompanied by a Caucasian male, who much more closely

resembled OSWALD, than his companions of his previous visit. They stayed for only a few minutes so positive identification would be impossible. This is the last time that I saw Hall...Enclosed you will also find a copy of a letter from GERRY PATRICK HEMMING to Mr. Wally Welch, which came into my possession during this time, and which describes the activities in Florida." On October 17, 1963, just before Loran Hall and William Houston Seymour left Dallas, they were arrested for possession of dangerous drugs. William Houston Seymour believed that the Dallas Police Department mistook Loran Hall for a beatnik because of his beard, and stopped and searched him on that basis.

Loran Hall:

HEMMING tipped off the cops...I was being set up for the Kennedy killing. Not as a conspirator or a patsy, but as a smoke screen. My arrest was for the records. To show that Loran Hall was in Dallas just before the President was killed. Anyone investigating the assassination would come up with my name and figure this guy might have a reason for the killing because Kennedy didn't back the anti-Castro movement. They would waste time investigating me while the real killers covered their tracks." [Interview with Harold Weisberg; *National Enquirer* 9.1.68]

HEMMING 1994: "They got caught driving a fucking trailer around with that asshole driving who gets tickets every fifteen fucking minutes." Loran Hall and William Houston Seymour left Dallas for the Florida Keys on **October 19, 1963**. *Life Magazine* reporter Tom Duncan interviewed Loran Hall in Florida:

Hall was in a sticky position due to barbiturates in his possession, although arms and ammunition were parked safely in trailer separated from vehicle. No charges made, and while no specific name mentioned as to who wielded influence, later heard from GERRY PATRICK HEMMING that Lester Logue, oilman, was responsible...Got to Miami and he stored the equipment and began looking for a boat...Hall finally made connection with Manuel Aguilar, head of FRAC (Frente Revolucionaria Anti-Communist), for use of Aguilar's boat, the *Pitusa*.

Tom Duncan recalled that Loran Hall and Manuel Aguilar departed: "around nightfall on **Tuesday, October 29, 1963**...Earlier, Hall, Aguilar, Howard and Seymour and I had driven to launch site suggested by Aguilar...Hall suggested use of my car to tow the boat, with no weaponry. To avoid debate, I agreed. I drove Aguilar's car." The mission was aborted because Hall had been stopped by Caesar Diosdado of the United States Customs Service. [Ltr. To Gordon Winslow 9.15.74 from Tom Duncan] On October 31, 1963, Hall was arrested for the illegal possession of arms. HEMMING told this researcher: "They had the Johnson, a couple of Carcanos, a Springfield, two M-1 Gerands and a couple of fucking carbines." On November 1, 1963, HEMMING filed a complaint with the Miami Police Department that read: City of Miami, Florida

Inter-Office Memorandum

To: C.H. Sapp, Det. Sgt. Intelligence Unit  
From G. Zenoz, Policeman 1/c Intelligence Unit.  
Date November 1, 1963.

JERRY PATRICK 2450 N.W. North River Drive, Apartment K. As instructed by Det. Sgt. Sapp I met above Subject at 201 S.W. 21st Court Apt. #2. Subject stated that one man, Loran Hall, stole two rifles from his apartment last night. One rifle being a Jungle Carbine #R5841; the other being a Savage 22 rifle with a scope. Hall was seen as he left the Subject's apartment carrying two rifles. Recently, in California, Loran Hall stole a Johnson 30-06 rifle from this Subject. Hall is staying with Cuban Manuel Aguilar at 829 S.W. 9th Ave, 373-3829.

HEMMING told this researcher: "Hall bullshitted Hathcock that he was going to deliver it to me." Loran Hall, weary of constant harassment from various Federal Agents, returned to Los Angeles on November 10, 1963, and retired from the anti-Castro struggle.

POTENTIAL CRIMINAL INFORMANT SID MARKS

On November 23, 1963, Sid Marks, a FBI Potential Criminal Informant and Private Investigator from Gardena, California, advised FBI S.A. Robert Matheson that

"...about 30 days ago or a little more he was in the private detective office of Dick Hathcock and an associate of Dick Hathcock's Roy Payne, described as White Male American, 6', 210 pounds, shaved bald head, was there and prior to going out asked source if a fellow came in to get a rifle and \$50 from him. An individual named Skip came in and got a high powered rifle which source, who is not familiar with weapons, advises looks identical to one he saw on TV today. Skip is described as Mexican male, white, 6' age 40 to 45, slender, and a loud mouth. Source says that Payne and Skip are anti-Kennedy and pro-Castro from remarks. Says nothing else available regarding Skip Payne was ambulance driver for the Los Angeles Police Department. [FBI 62-109060-7815; NARA FBI 124-10066-10042, 10043, 10044]

HEMMING 1994:

Hathcock was lying about when he first met Whatley. He knew Richard Whatley when Whatley was doing movie work. This was in the 1950's. He worked at a place called Nature's Haven. That cross-eyed lion, that was his cat. That's where he first met Dick Hathcock, because Hathcock did all the star's bullshit, for the movie stars. The CIA used him as an informant.

Whatley started out on the Cuban scene working for STURGIS. After Bay of Pigs, he got jobs for some of the people in the team who worked with STURGIS.

Dick Hathcock told the FBI that Loran Hall or HEMMING were unknown to him prior to this meeting. When Gaeton Fonzi questioned him in 1976 he said: "It was through HEMMING and Loran Hall that I met Richard Whatley." Gaeton Fonzi asked, "You met HEMMING and Loran Hall prior to knowing Richard Whatley?" He said, "Oh yeah, sure. I'm positive about that." HEMMING told this researcher:

I had met Hathcock a couple of times talking about some other business, and then, when it was time to go down the road, Hall didn't have any fucking money for the car. Hall is talking about visiting with SANTOS, and I figured this guy is going to show up in Miami either fucking way, so I better keep a short leach on this son-of-a-bitch. So I introduced him to Hathcock.

HEMMING stated that he recovered the weapon from Dr. Crockett of Miami in January 1964.

HEMMING told this researcher: "Hall never knew the trailer was in Miami. He and William Houston Seymour traveled to Miami from Dallas by Greyhound bus. Loran Hall was back in Dallas two days before the assassination talking to Lester Logue. Hall was in Dallas on November 22, 1963.

The Dallas FBI ordered the Los Angeles FBI to "show charges fully resolved." [FBI Dallas 89-43-4096] The Los Angeles FBI created a Letter Head Memorandum. After it was approved by William C. Sullivan, it was sent to Dallas and Miami. When the FBI turned over its Kennedy assassination documents to the Warren Commission, the Letter Head Memorandum was rewritten, and filed with crank reports. Warren Commission Document 1179 concluded: "No further investigation was conducted as it is obvious that the rifle mentioned above was not used in connection with the Kennedy assassination."

HEMMING instructed Loran Hall to take a rifle, with a scope sight, out of pawn just before the assassination and bring it to Dallas because he was setting Loran Hall up as an alternate patsy. HEMMING told this researcher: "Not likely. Loran Hall couldn't shoot fucking straight. He could even fucking talk straight. This guy is a snitch for more than one fucking agency." Had HEMMING filed the police report so that it would be discovered after the assassination? HEMMING told this researcher:

Well, it was kind of known before the assassination, so that would preclude using that rifle, wouldn't it? If a warrant is sworn out for somebody, and a rifle is identified, it's not likely somebody is going to run around using that tool. The weapon was never registered or identified with me anyway. I told the Miami City Police that he stole it in Miami. He

brought it, in his possession, to Miami. He had stolen property in his possession within the Miami City limits. I was trying to get him busted with that rifle. We thought about beating the shit out of him, but it would have been a fucking shoot out. They were laying in wait for us. Loran Hall was a snitch for the Los Angeles FBI. Hall tried to snitch me out in 1959 when I went back to Los Angeles. After my father died in January 1963, Hall shows up at my mother's new house before I got the address. He said he wanted to get involved. We drove back to Miami together. Did an interview with Bill Stuckey. Stayed at STURGIS' buddy's place in Dallas - Wally Welch. Hall went to Tampa, without my knowledge, and started dealing with TRAFFICANTE after he arrived in Miami with me. Then came back and was dealing with STURGIS. He's hooked up with a guy named Manuel Aguilar, a Castro agent. He's got a safehouse and he's out recruiting my people. I wondered 'What the fuck is going on here?'

HEMMING tried to put this researcher into one of his patsy scenarios. He offered to drive me to a university laboratory where one could allegedly construct a homemade atomic bomb so he could work off a beef. HEMMING 1994:

You were going to meet Cokie Zimiri. He was looking for some critical mass summaries at the time. He'd explain how he was going set up a nuclear device. I was not trying to set you up. He wanted to tell the press how it was possible to set up a nuclear device. He was an inventor and a physicist.

In April 1976 HEMMING was asked by Dick Russell during an interview for *Argosy Magazine*: "You told the Senate investigators that Loran Hall was somehow involved." HEMMING:

Yes, on the day of the assassination, I made a call from Miami to Texas. And I pointedly asked, 'Is Lorenzo Hall in Dallas?' I made the call about 1:30 p.m. or 2:00 p.m. He was there. My contact had seen him in Dallas the day before.

Russell: Why were you suspicious of Loran Hall?

HEMMING: Because he left Miami with the stated intent to kill Kennedy. He had my weapon, a Johnson 30-06 breakdown rifle with a scope on it, that had been prepared for the Bay of Pigs. I'd left it with a private investigator who had previously worked under Agency auspices on the West Coast. Hall got the weapon when we ran short of funds on a return trip from L.A. to Florida, and we ended up using Hall's car.

Russell: You were working closely with Hall?

HEMMING: He came to work with our group in 1963. Then he ran afoul with some people and immediately went to work with a group that I thought was infiltrated by Castro's agents. Hall ignored this. He siphoned off a couple of people who had worked with me in the past, and started organizing his own operation with FRANK STURGIS and some other guys...He knew how to do the job...But I think someone was trying to put him there so he would be one of the patsies.

HEMMING 1994:

After the thing went down, I called Lester Logue. Lester, having been a big guy in Republican politics, started making calls. I said, 'Did Loran show up there?' Logue says, 'Yeah, he was here yesterday.' I said, 'That son-of-a-bitch has got my fucking rifle, I don't know if he's part of this shit. If he shows up on your doorstep blow his fucking head off, cause he's come to kill you.' Hall could have ended up in the fuckin' school book depository himself. He was another fuckin' OSWALD being led down the path. Being put into position where he could have taken a fall. A fall guy.

HEMMING told the HSCA that people around Lester Logue suggested that President John F. Kennedy should be assassinated and that the same group came to Miami and made a similar offer to Alpha-66. HEMMING told this researcher:

Totally wrong. I met Logue through Robert Morris. He was chairman of the Republican Party Committee, and a personal friend of NIXON. He was an oil geologist. You don't have Lester plotting and scheming to take out anybody. Not that he didn't say something like that now and then. It's not my testimony. I wore a goddamn wire, [when I testified before the HSCA] you simple fuck. The main person talking to Lester Logue was DeMohrenschmidt. Lester had heard about OSWALD and had been told by other parties that this kid has a strange background. Lester made a couple of inquiries about OSWALD and they tell him 'He's okay.' I was in touch with Logue at the same time DeMohrenschmidt was in touch with Logue. This was when DeMohrenschmidt was in touch with OSWALD. Logue died while we were making the movie, *JFK*.

#### LORAN HALL AND JIM GARRISON

In December 1967 New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison subpoenaed Loran Hall to testify about the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. California authorities quashed Jim Garrison's subpoena citing Loran Hall's alibi for November 22, 1963. Nevertheless, Loran Hall voluntarily appeared at Jim Garrison's office and conveyed that "other individuals had caused Loran Hall's name to be mentioned in the Warren Commission Report." A CIA document stated:

1. On September 10, 1975, Ruth S. Taylor, DDO/LA/COG/CI, contacted the writer regarding the 201-file concerning Loran Eugene Hall temporarily held by writer. Taylor advised that DDO/DCD was making inquiry concerning Agency involvement with Hall. Taylor reviewed the 201 and the writer advised Taylor that she could alert DCD that the Office of Security, specifically the writer, has a file on Hall and could possibly assist DCD.
2. On September 10, 1975, Sean Ryan DCD/OSO, contacted the writer, advising that the FBI in Los Angeles had contacted the DCD in Los Angeles for information concerning any Agency affiliation with Hall. Apparently, Hall had contacted the FBI in Los Angeles and is to be interviewed by the on September 10, 1975, on an allegation made by Hall that he was a gunrunner for the Agency in the early 1960's. Ryan was completely unfamiliar with Hall's background and a short briefing was provided by this writer. DCD was alerted to their prior interest in Hall, the only known Agency connection, when he was of interest for debriefing relative to Cuban matters. DCD was further alerted to their prior interest in debriefings of a close associate of Hall in the early 1960's, GERALD PATRICK HEMMING. Ryan was also advised that HEMMING, in the early 1960's, was closely connected with FRANK STURGIS who has recently made unfounded claims of Agency involvement, specifically in connection with STURGIS's arrest as one of the Watergate burglars.
3. Loran Hall was one of the principals of New Orleans District Attorney James Garrison's investigation of the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. Garrison placed Hall in Dallas, Texas, at the time of the Kennedy assassination, claiming that also Hall was one of the individuals who visited Sylvia Odio prior to the assassination. Odio had long claimed that one of the individuals with Hall was LEE HARVEY OSWALD. The Warren Commission chose to discount Odio's testimony, but her testimony has been one of the major basis of contention given by Warren Commission critics.

Jerry G. Brown,

Deputy Chief, Security Analysis Group.

Bruce Solie commented: "Suggest that the FBI liaison be advised. Office of Security would be interested in results of Loran Hall interview." Loran Hall, interviewed by telephone in May 1977, stated:

Hall: Who's GERALD PATRICK HEMMING? Never heard of him. Who is he, some left-winger?

WEBERMAN: He was with INTERPEN and the International Anti-Communist Brigade.

Hall: That's a Communist organization.

WEBERMAN: The International *Anti-Communist* Brigade is a communist organization?

Hall: Yeah, I wouldn't know anybody like that. Anybody with a name like GERRY PATRICK HEMMING has either got to be a Communist or CIA.

WEBERMAN: Well, I think this man was a dedicated anti-Communist.

Hall: Who? GERRY PATRICK HEMMING? If it's the one I heard about he's CIA. I've got nothing to talk to you about. Anybody who associates with GERALD PATRICK HEMMING has either got to be CIA, FBI or an asshole. I got nothing to say. Hey, nobody is going to print anything I got to say, nobody. That's fine. I'm in no hurry to get my head blown off. HEMMING is a CIA punk. I've known the son-of-a-bitch for fifteen years. He turned his own goddamned crews in so he wouldn't have to go to Cuba. He has fingered me on my own goddamn deals and caused me to get arrested. Ah fuck. Hey man as it stand right now there's only two of us left alive. That's me and SANTO TRAFFICANTE as far as I'm concerned we're both going to stay alive because I ain't gonna say shit. I ain't gonna have some asshole come up to me and blow me away...The only thing I'm saying is that if any of you assholes come near me you better have a fuckin' army with you baby. Cause I got my shit together and I'll blow the first one of you motherfuckers away that even comes near me. That you can put in print.

The HSCA questioned Loran Hall about the statement he made during this conversation:

Triplet: Have you ever made the statement to the effect that as of now there are only two of us left, that is me and SANTO TRAFFICANTE, as far as I am concerned we are both going to stay alive, because I am not going to say anything. Have you ever made a statement to that effect?

Hall: You have got the tape of it Mr. Triplet, yes I did.

Triplet: What did you refer to as far as there are only two of us left?

Hall: There was a meeting in New Orleans. I mean Miami that was to set up the Pawley-Bayo raid on Cuba. And of that meeting, to the best of my knowledge, there is just the two of us left alive.

Triplet: Did that statement have any reference to the assassination of President Kennedy?

Hall: No it did not.

On June 8, 1977, Loran Hall told the HSCA:

I was in Monterey Park, California, and Los Angeles...On November 22, 1963, I called Mildred Hyatt to establish my whereabouts. She called me back. [I visited] IPCO Hospital Supply. I had made a statement to an FBI man in Dallas, probably within a month and half of the time the President was killed...something to the effect that someone ought to kick his ass or blow him away...In those days I really didn't give a damn about Kennedy. I testified under oath before Garrison...I then went to Sacramento to see Governor Reagan's aide, Mr. Meese...After the Garrison subpoena was served on me...I was on my way down to the attorney's office when I was forced off the canyon road...a few days later, it was New Years Eve, and I was hit in the arm with a needle and given infectious hepatitis. On the third time that someone had taken a socket wrench and removed three bolts off my steering column and I almost had a head on collision with a retainer wall as a result of that.

When Loran Hall sought medical treatment, his doctor believed he was a heroin addict. Loran Hall told the CIA about these incidents. When asked if he ever received money from the Agency, he said that Sam Giancana had given him \$20,000.



**On October 5, 1963**, MM T-1 said that HEMMING and his group was considering the release of some abandoned buildings at the Clewiston, Florida Airport for use as a military training site. On **October 16, 1963**, MM T-1 advised that some parts for a .23 mm cannon, along with a .20 mm cannon itself, arrived in Miami that day. It is unknown how this cannon or the parts arrived, but HEMMING took possession of it. MM T-1 advised on **November 8, 1963**, that HEMMING and the above-mentioned group

returned to Miami, Florida on November 6, 1963, after having conducted an unsuccessful search operation for RORKE and SULLIVAN. "INTERPEN - Neutrality Matters. Classification: None given. FBI File No. None given (Miami)" dated **November 14, 1963**, was the last pre-assassination FBI document about HEMMING. HEMMING told this researcher: "The November 1963 report concerned Werbell and Phillip Vidal." On February 10, 1965, Western Hemisphere/SA/INTEL became aware of a statement made by ROY HARGRAVES that he went on a CIA mission to Cuba on October 22, 1962, and that he trained men in the organization of Felipe Vidal.

The CIA reported:

In October 1959 Felipe Carlos Vidal Santiago arrived in Caracas, Venezuela, as the Cuban Naval Attaché. In January 1960 a CIA representative contacted Felipe Vidal when it became known he was disaffected with the Castro regime. Felipe Vidal defected from his position on March 7, 1960, and fled to Bogota, Colombia. A Provisional Operational Approval was granted to Felipe Vidal on March 15, 1960, and this was later superseded by a CSA, granted on October 27, 1960. This Agency planned to use Felipe Vidal as Chief of the Cuban Revolutionary Front Maritime Force. It was later learned Felipe Vidal was an opportunist, and associated with people whom the CIA frowned upon. He was considered a security risk and interest in him was terminated in August 1961. Vidal then aligned himself with various exile groups, notably the Frente Liberacion Nacional (FLN). Vidal appeared before the Immigration and Naturalization Service on numerous occasions for violations committed while engaging in anti-Castro activities with various exile groups. On one occasion he related to the INS and FBI that he was at one time a CIA agent and furnished them some background information regarding his activities while working for us. While attempting to infiltrate Cuba in March 1964, he was captured. He was executed by the Government of Cuba on May 26, 1964. At no time after August 1961 was this Agency affiliated with Vidal. There is no record of this Agency having utilized the services of ROY EMORY HARGRAVES. He may well have infiltrated Cuba on October 22, 1962, as he claims and also trained some men in Vidal's organization, but this was neither a CIA mission nor CIA men that he claims to have trained. NOTE: As Vidal is dead, do not see how an issue could be raised over HARGRAVES statement that he went on a CIA mission to Cuba on October 22, 1962, and that he trained the CIA men in Vidal's organization. HARGRAVES lawyer would have a picnic on this. WH/SA/INTELL.

#### THE ALLEGED AIRPORT INCIDENT

On Monday, **November 18, 1963**, President John F. Kennedy arrived in Miami at 5:00 p.m. In 1978 HEMMING told this researcher: "They tried to get us to Dallas. They got us to the airport when Kennedy came through Miami on November 18, 1963, supposedly

to eyeball the crowd for Castro double agents who might try to harm the President. I made sure our people weren't carrying any weapons. We were there and there was going to be a hit. We got in a helicopter and went over to the beach. [In 1994 he denied having said this.] Now when that didn't work they tried to get us to Dallas. They tried to get us in the same city." In 1984 HEMMING told this researcher he was at the airport:

FBI S.A. George Davis was the man who contacted us on Saturday, November 16, 1963. I had never dealt with him before. He told me to go down to the undercover office of military intelligence. We had a meeting, during which they explained to us why we were needed at the airport. Nick Navarro, Tony Fontana, BERNARDO De TORRES and Secret Service Agent Ernesto Aragon were there. Aragon had posed as a Postal Inspector to set up Robert K. Brown in 1962. I met him. These people are dirty, but I will give them the benefit of the doubt - that they were doing what they were fucking told to do. That they have gravitated to positions of prominence since then, means somebody thinks they know something. They wanted our group to be at the airport when Kennedy came through Miami on November 18, 1963. Gorman disobeyed orders. There was going to be a hit by the Santana brothers. During the shootout with the Castro double agents the President would catch a slug. Learn the goddamn business. That's the way it's done. We were supposed to be left there with fuckin' holes in our head. A hit was going to go down there and we were going to be left holding the bag, asshole. Now when that didn't work, they tried to get us in Dallas.

HEMMING was asked if any files existed on this incident:

Who the fuck keeps files on a crazy fucking operation like that? Were we seen there? Yeah. STURGIS was photographed there.

In a Freedom of Information Act request dated January 3, 1977, addressed to the United States Secret Service, HEMMING asked for "Reports reflecting the request of an intelligence agent that my associates and I be present at Miami International Airport, to assist in the 'security' of the visit of President Kennedy to Miami on November 15, 1963." STURGIS was questioned about his presence at Miami Airport. He said he knew nothing of it. "That's too far back, really..." Joseph Gorman, contacted in Bowling Green, Kentucky declined comment. HEMMING called Joe Gorman:

Well, I talked to Little Joe and he said no, he didn't bring his 45. If he did he would have probably taken a shot at him. I mean that's how he felt. What if somebody thought that was our attitude too? That we'd all been running our mouths and bad mouthing Kennedy. What if they thought Joe was representative of the group? What the fuck you think they're puttin' us there for?

During another conversation HEMMING stated:

We got within spitting distance of Kennedy. We were right there in the receiving line. We're in the gauntlet line. And that's supposed to protect him from anybody trying to rush in and do something. Their attitude is a guy with knife, a bomb, a gun, is gonna rush up. They're not into this kind of rifle sniper type bullshit for some reason. We were the only ones that would recognize Castro double agents. Diosdado had engineered the Santana brothers being taken off the *U.S.S. Oxford* and being sent to No Name Key the year before. Now, according to George Davis, one of the Santana brothers was reported back in Miami for a hit on JFK. They needed people that could recognize Santana in an instant.

Howard K. Davis confirmed HEMMING'S Miami Airport story. Gordon Winslow located photographs of the event, but could not locate HEMMING or Howard K. Davis. Gordon Winslow: "HEMMING didn't know President Kennedy gave a speech out there that day." HEMMING told me about the airport incident in 1978. In 1994 he denied that he did this:

I first told Oliver Stone about the airport incident in 1990. I didn't even tell my own brother, so why should I tell you, slipdick? It wasn't likely OSWALD was there that weekend. It is only likely if they really were prepared to do the hit at the airport. Now that hit would have gone down in front of a lot of people.

Wallace Shanley stated: "I have no knowledge of his being at the airport. But it is plausible. There are such people, and HEMMING would have some competence in identifying them."

## PATRICK'S RAIDERS

### THE INTERPEN CREW

STURGIS and HEMMING'S INTERPEN / ANTI-COMMUNIST BRIGADE militia attracted many former members of the Cuban rebel armed forces. Several of these men had done time in Castro's prisons. INTERPEN was a para-legal organization: U.S. citizens were forbidden by law to be combatants in foreign military operations. INTERPEN was partially financed by dispossessed casino owners who had operated under Batista. Other funding came indirectly from the CIA. Former INTERPEN member Howard K. Davis was asked about this. He responded, "Well, we got it from Cubans. Cuban donations. Of course they could have gotten it from the CIA. In fact we knew that some Cubans did get their money from the CIA and they would then..."

Before he went into private practice in Miami, INTERPEN'S Attorney, Charles Ashmann was an Assistant to the Florida State Attorney General. HEMMING reported: "He was prominent in politics. A power broker." The CIA reported:

Subject does not have a security file, but limited information concerning him appears in reference files. He is described as a 33 year old attorney with the law firm of Guilmartin, Schneiderman and Ashmann of Miami, Florida. In September 1960, Ashmann, representing the Harris Advertising Agency of Miami, attached planes belonging to Cubana Airlines and garnished funds belonging to the Cuban Government, because the Cuban Government refused to pay \$429,000 which it owed the Harris Agency. At the time, Fidel Castro was attending a 1960 United Nations meeting. When Ashmann confiscated the Cuban airliner which had taken Castro to New York, Castro was forced to obtain a ride back to Havana in Premier Khrushchev's plane. [National crime syndicate associate Sam Benton also was instrumental in seizing four planes on behalf of the same company, to satisfy a debt owed by the Castro Government to a client].

Most of Ashmann's clients were Cuban exiles and anti-Castro commandos. He had stirred up speculation in the press that he was employed by the CIA, but Ashmann denied any affiliation with the Agency and in fact stated that most of his clients were outspoken in their hostility to the Agency.

In January 1963, a cable describing Ashman as 'publicity seeking Miami attorney' who was representing JERRY PATRICK HEMMING who had been arrested on charges of violating U.S. Neutrality laws by an attempt to form an expedition to invade a foreign country.



**Howard K. Davis**, (CIA 201-0189473) born August 11, 1930, had been a high-ranking member of the Rebel Air Force of Fidel Castro. He related, "I flew mostly into where Raoul Castro was, and saw Raoul, and spoke to him a good bit. I have been described as Castro's 'personal pilot.' I was not." When he began to oppose Castro, the Border Patrol placed the name of Howard K. Davis on a list of persons banned from renting aircraft. The CIA described him as an acquaintance of many Miami-based anti-Castro

Cubans and reported: "Station files show...during the middle and late 1950's Davis was at least an acquaintance, if not a colleague, of William Morgan, assassinated by Castro in Cuba. It is known that Davis has known Robert K. Brown for some time. Subject appeared on Allen Courtney's Miami radio show on November 27, 1962, with Edward LeRoy Collins and GERRY HEMMING and Charles Ashmann." In 1957 the 26th of July Movement placed a bomb in Allen Courtney's driveway. CIA Office of Security traces on Howard K. Davis:

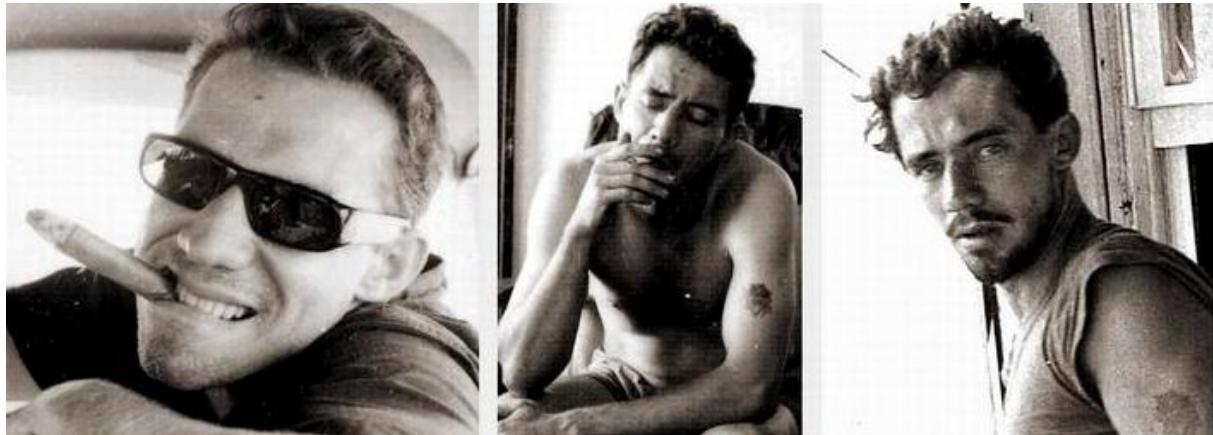
Howard K. Davis born August 11, 1930 was an associate of GERALD PATRICK HEMMING involved in anti-Castro and anti-Duvalier groups and lived in Miami. Subject could not be identified with any one of the same name in Office of Security indices. Howard Davis, subject of OS file #107537 was born March 7, 1937. Howard Davis, subject of OS file #25489 was born February 8, 1900. The only information we have on Subject is that contained in attachment 14 of your Memo dated August 7, 1967 on GERALD PATRICK HEMMING." [CIA 40490 3.21.68]

In May 1963 the CIA's JMWAVE base was "queried regarding possible use of Subject. Said it had no interest." [Allen v. DOD CIA 40490] The CIA's Locator Data indicated that Howard K. Davis' file was "Permanently charged to C/CI/R&A 2B1405, 1345, 04.08.67." CI/CA issued an Information Correct Card regarding Howard K. Davis. Howard K. Davis was FBI source MM-T1.



**LAWRENCE JOHN HOWARD** (born January 17, 1933) came from a group headed by Guy Gabalon called the Drive Against Communist Aggression. In 1961 Gabalon ran an anti-Castro office in Los Angeles. When he ran for Congress in 1964 Loran Hall was his campaign manager. When the CIA released HOWARD'S 201 File, rather than release the 201 File of JOHN LAWRENCE HOWARD, it released the 201 File of Lawrence Henry Howard (born November 3, 1913 in Bridgeport, Connecticut. [CIA 201-756375]

When the CIA did an INDEX SEARCH AND 201 CONSOLIDATION REPORT on HOWARD on July 24, 1975, it located one applicable reference dated November 10, 1959. The nature of this reference has been withheld. HOWARD claimed to know Pedro Diaz Lanz, Enrique Molina "thinks he flew Rorke to Mexico and suspects he was working for Castro," ROY HARGRAVES, INTERPEN associate - in contact still in 1968," FRAC, "group HOWARD was working with in Miami - went on three raids," and Tony Varona, who "thought HOWARD was double-crossing him because he was involved in training about 50 men from New York area who were interested in deposing Papa Doc Duvalier in Haiti. Oscar Pino, working with Masferrer, more or less 'infiltrated' these men into HOWARD'S training camp on the Key while HOWARD was in Miami." [Garrison interview with HOWARD 2.25.69; NARA HSCA 180-10085-10185]



**William Houston Seymour** was born December 1, 1937 or January 12, 1937 at Fort Benton, Montana. On January 10, 1968 the FBI ran a file check on William Houston Seymour. Serials 89-69-1797, 1809 page 2, 1839 page 2. On September 2, 1977, the CIA ran an INDEX SEARCH AND 201 CONSOLIDATION REQUEST on William Houston Seymour much of which was withheld from research. William Houston Seymour's address was listed as 1008 Simmons, Tucson, Arizona. A document that was attached to this request read: "Seymour, W.H. Wash-CIA-Int-28 Folder #1 p.14 60-749/16 Requested from DDP Records Center 'Will Follow' RI/Archives References 362070." The first traces on William Houston Seymour in the CIA'S highly illegible MAIN INDEX SEARCH RESPONSE: "\*\*\*Locator Data Order From IP/CFS January 1, 1959 01774066." The second trace read: "Seymour 201-0011838 (Deleted) 07732A01 June 55 Enclosure 1. \*\*\*Locator Data: Order from IP/CFS (Deleted) 07732 March 17, 1975, 06667012." The CIA discovered traces on a (FNU) Seymour in Trieste in 1949, which was unidentifiable with the Subject. The fourth trace "Seymour 201-007038 (Deleted) 60682A01 November 30, 1971. Locator Data: Order from IP/CFS 6C-52 (Deleted) December 14, 1971 02949487 Aperture Card Available See Aperture Card Attached. END OF REPLY - 4 records listed."

During the FBI's investigation of the Minutemen in 1963, the names Loran Hall and William Houston Seymour surfaced. The reason for this was classified. The FBI: "Loran Hall and William Houston Seymour's present whereabouts are unknown, but it would appear, from information concerning them, they are adventurers and mercenaries, and it is not believed they warrant attention at this time with respect to the Subject organization, or until or unless some more specific information identifying them with Subject organization is received." [FBI 157-218-70-2.14.64]

A HSCA document revealed:

\*\*\*Material has not been seen by the Committee

Material Furnished by: Hugh Tovar CI/Staff

Subject: HSCA REVIEW AT HEADQUARTERS **William Seymour** (Tab G), **FRANK ANTHONY STURGIS** (Tab H, 1 and 2), Operation Cobra

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\*\*\*Material has been reviewed by: Betsy Palmer, Pat Orr, Jonathan on November 16, 1977 (except for Tab D (1-2) and H-1 and H-2)

\*\*\*Members of the HSCA.

A CIA Memorandum for the Record stated: "Information regarding OPERATION COBRA may be found in the files of the Defense Intelligence Agency. [CIA FOIA # F81-0351D0605]



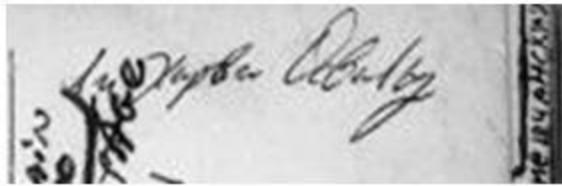
**Edmund Kolby's** name appeared on a CIA index card titled "FRD - Cuban Revolutionary Front 34244B /D October 21, 1960 p1 KOLBY, Edmund 350653 /U 64." The CIA: "COLBY (FNU) (Illegible) received from a representative of Office Original Coordination of Standard Oil of New Jersey. During week July 8, 1962, source visited by Colby. Subject's first name, address (illegible) dressed, wearing glasses, speaking with slight stammer. Apparently U.S. citizen from Eastern section of U.S. Source said he spent six years in Army with Special Services, now working on project training Cubans unconventional warfare Florida, Everglades. Claimed spent three or four months a year on merchant ship. This supported him during the rest of the year while worked on training project. He expressed little love for the CIA or the U.S. Government and gave source copy of article that appeared in

June 3, 1962 issue of the *Denver Post* 'Cuban Exiles Have Learned to Hate CIA.' Reason visiting source is to get financial backing for his project. Very critical of money given to underground groups while his group gets no financial support...Subject was not specific activities of group. Mentioned getting food and medical supplies into Cuba and 18 day course guerilla warfare." [CIA-DO1251-1500 Source CSCI-3/772,387 8.22.62 WH-740, 7.17.62 also MFR Sub: Cuban Underground Activities in Florida (Anti-Castro)]

#EE-29 229 Thomas A. Ogden, CI Support Desk OS/OSD/SD/4] HEMMING told this researcher:

Kolby was born in Finland. He was with the U.N. partisan forces behind the lines in North Korea. He's the black sheep of the family. Doesn't know how to drive a car. Stammers a little bit. Looks just like Wally Cocks, Mr. Peepers, he was on a number of operations. He lives in Miami. Works for the Department of Agriculture. Kolby didn't run around soliciting support. They came to him.





OSWALD'S address book contained the name "Colby." This may have referred to Edmund Kolby since his name was often misspelled. For example, a December 7, 1962, Counter-Intelligence Support Desk Memorandum stated: "In a name check run in Task Force W indices, a Colby [FNU] was reported in July 1962 as approaching a Standard Oil representative for financial support for his underground group." [Thomas A. Ogden CI Support Desk OS/OSD/SD/4] The FBI stated that the address book entry referred to Ted Colby, a Revlon Corporation salesman, since the number 1147 appeared directly behind the Colby entry, and Ted Colby lived at 4711 Homer Street in Dallas. [USSS #CO-2-34,030-197 p2] HEMMING told this researcher: "Kolby was in and out of New Orleans on merchant ships. Kolby told me in 1962 when he come off a merchant ship that he had ran into some assholes in New Orleans who I thought was Larry LaBorde, who was in a bar talking about training camps. Kolby don't talk." [Kolby's Last Known Address 4035 N. Meridan Ave Miami, Florida]



The CIA reported, "Loran Hall served in the U.S. Army 1947-1952, West Germany, and was given an honorable discharge for medical reasons. According to his father he has suffered a nervous breakdown and is still subject to severe depression. He claims to be a soldier of fortune who once served Castro's cause, but some who know him think that he is lying." In 1958 INTERPEN member Loran Eugene Hall [201-253411] smuggled arms to rebel commander Camillo Cienfuegos. On April 21, 1959, the Castro regime arrested Loran Hall on property owned by Camillo Cienfuegos for training recruits to conduct an expedition against Nicaragua: "I was a member of a group inside Cuba in the early parts of 1959 and I was part of the group that was to have gone into Nicaragua for the purpose of assassinating Somoza, and with me at that time was a man called Miro Cardona." [NYT 4.22.59] Camillo Cienfuegos was killed in a mysterious aircraft accident. Loran Hall was imprisoned for three months, and then released in July 1959. The CIA's Office of Security reported:

Subject's file reflects that 00/Contacts requested an ad hoc clearance in July 1959 to debrief Hall at the time of his return to his home in Wichita, Kansas, after his release from a Cuban prison. The FBI interrogated Hall for two hours at the Wichita FBI office on July 16, 1959 and released him.

They had no objection to the Agency contacting Hall after that date but from the FBI it was learned that Hall was an unlikely Subject from which to obtain truthful information, and his value was considered questionable. The request for clearance from 00/Contacts was, therefore, canceled on October 29, 1959. The reports of the FBI interrogation of Hall in Wichita dated July 28, 1959 are contained in this file. His file also contains a copy of a 00 report dated September 12, 1963, and September 18, 1963, concerning a polygraph examination of Hall on 'invasions of Cuba.' This examination was given by a Mr. Robert Berrick, President of the West Coast Lie Detection Center. At that time (September 1963) Hall made a speech before the John Birch Society and he was referred to the West Coast Lie Detection Center by a representative of the John Birch Society...Hall revealed himself to be vehemently anti-Jewish during the polygraph examination and expressed his view that of the 142 top advisors in the U.S., 104 at least were Jews and that the man directly under J. Edgar Hoover at that time had at one time been deported from the U.S. for Communistic activities. The polygraph report stated that Hall had been arrested for forgery. [CIA D00213 1.9.68]

HEMMING claimed Loran Hall had never been to Cuba prior to April 1959 and was there for three days before he was arrested for meeting with an anti-Castro figure. In May 1968 Loran Hall told New Orleans District Attorney Jim Garrison "Prior to my being arrested over in Cuba I met five or six Americans that was over there during the revolution, like FIORINI, Thompson, Austin Young, I met quite a few of the...HEMMING told me he had been with William Morgan and I can never recall having seen HEMMING all the time that I was in Havana. I can never remember seeing him." He described his release: "Cienfuegos got me out. Put me in a command car and drove me to the airport."

poza a Zago Hobo  
 Izmisljeno "BERLICH" M.M.  
 (Collin)

Amer. Embassy  
 TEL. Moscow  
 52-00-08 11.444.102  
 7-2-20-87 19/21  
 - 7-2-00-10 9-6 PM 88  
 (Alleged, Vera Hobo  
 former teacher known  
 at Moscow)

АКСОНОВ Николаев  
 МИН. ОМН. РСФ. ССР.  
 RUSS. PAR. FORCH. 1995 Y 7666  
 AMER. PASS. 1733242  
 WIORUSS. 1731470

poza a Zago Hobo  
 Izmisljeno "BERLICH" M.M.  
 (Collin)



INTERPEN appealed to people whom HEMMING described as having "a low level mentality," like Edward Anderson Collins. Collins was born at Shreveport, Louisiana, on August 21, 1935. HEMMING told this researcher:

Collins had come from ECONCON in Europe. He was reporting to Wallace Shanley's people.

Edward Collins worked in the Dixon Language School in Miami and had ties with racist groups like the Ku Klux Klan and J.B. National Stoner's National States Rights Party. James Earl Ray's brother, Jerry Ray, was J. B. Stoner's bodyguard. In May 1962 both the FBI and the CIA were investigating Edward Collins, "regarding a bomb threat." [FBI 105-110398-2 5.1.62] The name COLONS appears in OSWALDS address book on a page opposite contiguous with HEMMING's name.



**ROY HARGRAVES** was HEMMING'S primary action agent. HARGRAVES (CIA SF #518 334) was born February 14, 1940, in St. Louis, Missouri. He was 5' 10" tall, 165 pounds, hazel eyes and brown hair. His father was a laborer. On May 16, 1957, HARGRAVES was charged with AWOL and escape at Lackland Air Force Base, Texas. He received a dishonorable discharge from the Air Force in 1958, after nine months of confinement in a military prison. HEMMING told this researcher:

He was charged with being AWOL and they were going to raise it to desertion. The Feds wanted to charge him with the Mann Act. HARGRAVES was trying to get his discharge cleared up in 1962. OSWALD would do the same a year later. There's some coincidence for you. People got the impression he was my enforcer and it made them nervous.

On February 13, 1958, HARGRAVES was arrested for burglary in South Phoenix, Arizona. On May 5, 1958, he was charged with Grand Theft. His probation was revoked and he was sent to the Arizona State Penitentiary for two to three years. On May 23, 1958, the Board of Paroles and Pardons, Phoenix, Arizona, sentenced him to two to three years in prison. On December 12, 1959, he was "rel by expiration." In June 1960 he was in Bossier City, Louisiana, and Benton, Louisiana, where he was arrested for investigation of burglary. On April 17, 1961, he was arrested for vagrancy in El Paso,

Texas. By May 1961 he was back in Miami where he was arrested for vagrancy and shoplifting. HARGRAVES listed his occupation as "decorator." [NARA FBI 124-10031-10034]

**Robert K. Brown** was one of INTERPEN'S guerrilla warfare instructors. Robert K. Brown was born in Monroe, Michigan, on November 2, 1932. In the mid-1950's, he attended Army Intelligence Analyst Training School in Fort Holabird, Maryland. Robert



K. Brown became involved in the anti-Batista movement in December 1957. He helped organize the 26th of July Movement at Colorado University and then traveled to Cuba in 1958. Robert K. Brown, contacted in July 1992, stated: "I went down to Cuba in the summer of 1958 for ten days. I went down there to work on my Masters degree in February 1959 for a couple of months. I met STURGIS briefly at the Hotel Tropicana. I went back down the same time in 1960, came back, and then I went down to Miami to work on my thesis. I ran into these guys in the Spring of 1962. They had a little half-assed camp in the Everglades. I didn't get down to their camp on No Name Key." When Robert K. Brown returned to America in April 1960, he offered to train INTERPEN members. Robert K. Brown: "I have different perspective on this. I've known GERRY for 25 years. He deals in a fantasy land. As far as conducting raids, to the best of my knowledge, he never went on one goddamn raid into Cuba. After the Bay of Pigs there was a significant quantity of Americans who came down to Miami, young guys that wanted to be soldiers-of-fortune and get a piece of Castro. After a couple of weeks of sleeping on park benches, they'd finally get smart and go home. Now there was about a dozen guys that stayed on until the last hurrah in 1969. These guys were involved in a lot of peripheral plots. As far as accomplishing anything, I always characterized them as soldiers-of-*mis*fortune. HEMMING was the most talented of the lot. But he was dealing in this mystical land of make believe."

In June 1962 Robert K. Brown had written an article entitled, "Cuban Exiles Have Learned to Hate The CIA." He held the CIA responsible for the lack of anti-Castro activity in the Miami area. He accused the Cuban Revolutionary Council of having cut back exile funding. Robert K. Brown went through the CIA's garbage. Because of his propensity for raiding trash bins and dumpsters in his CIA surveillance, Robert K. Brown was described by DAVID PHILLIPS as "one of the first garbologists." Robert K. Brown recalled, "We found out about an alleged CIA front. All we had was the location and the name 'Caribbean Marketing and Research.' I pulled out a document marked Secret. I called Jay Mallin who referred me to an FBI Agent. The next night there was no garbage there at all." The CIA reported:

Robert K. Brown attended the Infantry Officers Associate Career Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, beginning in October 1963 and appeared to his classmates and faculty members as being irrational in his outlook on anything connected with Communism. This change of opinion on Brown's part concerning Castro resulted in his active participation in the affairs of Cuban exiles and attempts to raise funds for weapons to be used against

Castro. These anti-Castro efforts on Subject's part was believed to demonstrate a lack of discretion incompatible with the standards of members of the Counter-Intelligence Corps. On September 25, 1964, Subject's Intelligence MOS was revoked and he was declared ineligible for any intelligence assignment. It was noted that most of Subject's overt activities, both pro and anti-Castro, took place after his release from active duty with the CIC MOS and during a period when he still had a Reserve Obligation.

Robert K. Brown was asked about his whereabouts on November 22. "That's one you can't pin on me, Weberman. I was in the training battalion at Fort Benning, Georgia."



Joe Cavendish Garman "LITTLE JOE GARMAN" was arrested in Frankfort, Kentucky, on November 8, 1959, and charged with CCDW. On August 19, 1960, he was arrested for illegal transportation of alcoholic beverages for resale. He was fined and given 30 days in jail. On July 10, 1961, he was arrested for vagrancy in Fort Lauderdale, Florida.



**RICHARD WHATLEY:** HEMMING told this researcher that Whatley came over to INTERPEN from the STURGIS' group. Robert K. Brown interviewed Whatley on September 16, 1972.

Q. What knowledge do you have of the Operations STURGIS participated in?

A. I built him a bomb, out of an oxygen bottle. Capped it, fused it, filled it with 50# of C-3 plastic explosive. He dropped it. It did not explode because it was 'safetyed' the safety device had not been removed. There is no doubt in my mind that STURGIS was involved with the Pittsburgh Mafia because I was there. I watched them play poker when there was \$20,000 on the table. TRAFFICANTE and his boys. STURGIS was our leader, but it turned out the ultimate conclusion was that TRAFFICANTE was his backer. He was our money.

Q. What relationship was there between TRAFFICANTE and the Pittsburgh crowd?

A. They were all together as far as I know. Rothman taking orders from Pittsburgh Phil and Phil taking orders from TRAFFICANTE. In that hotel owned by Rothman. [*Westmoreland Tribune Review* 10.25.77 Doris O'Donnell]